CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Translation is a major area of interest in the field of languages. According to Larson (1998, p.3) translation is "*transferring the meaning of the source language into the receptor language*". This means that translation is not only to replace words, but also to convey messages from the source language to the target language. Sometimes translators encounter difficulties in translating a word because some words are difficult to comprehend. The purpose of translation is to have some effective communication between people who speak different languages, so that they can understand information, cultures and ideas from different parts of the world.

In the world of movies, there are sometimes subtitles that aim to help people who may not understand the spoken language. Subtitle is a textual version of the dialog that appeared at the screen. Cintas and Remael (2021) said that subtitling can be explained as a translation practice that involves the presentation of written text, usually displayed on the lower part of the screen, in order to interpret the original dialogue exchanged between different speakers. The other verbal information is transmitted in visual way, such as letters, inserts, graffiti as well as in aurally way, such as songs, voices of, and voiceover narration. There are rules for subtitling, namely subtitles contain two lines and one line has 30-35 characters and the second line is shorter than the first line. The font use for subtitles is Helvetica or Arial. The

use of subtitles is not the same in different countries because each country has its own standards. Furthermore, in subtitling there are several strategies that can be used.

According to Cintas and Remael (2021) there are nine subtitling strategies that can be used by subtitlers in translating film subtitles. First is loan which is the same as borrowing, because it is just borrowing a word and transferring to the target language. Literal translation is translating the word as the target language structure while calque is a literal translation that follows the structure of the source language which sometimes sounds odd. Explicitation makes the source text more accessible by using specification, generalization or addition of extra information. Substitution is changing the cultural reference with a similar one that exists already. Meanwhile, transposition is translating the words based on the target culture. Lexical recreation is when the speaker makes up new words. Compensation means replacing words by being more creative or adding something more. Omission is when some audiences are not familiar with the word or the word has no meaning or cannot be translated into the target language then the word can be omitted.

Swear words usually appear frequently in films. Swear words tends to cause offense and may be purposely used to offend, but in either case, it reflects discredit on the speaker. Ljung (2011) stated that swearing is one of the many ways that languages give speakers as a way to put extra emphasis to their utterances, frequently combined with other emphasizing techniques such as stress, intonation and tone of voice. According to Swan (2005) there are 10 types of swear words. There is exclamation of annoyance, exclamation of surprise, surprised question,

insult (noun), insult (imperative verb + object), insulting request to go away, expression of unconcern, violent refusal/rejection/defiance, intensifying adjective/adverb, and miscellaneous.

There have been many researches on swear words. The first example of previous study was conducted by Syahla and Hartati (2023) in which the researcher explained about the types of swearing for the characters in the Birds of Prey movie. This study used a descriptive qualitative method. This research used Andersson and Trudgill's theory (1990) for the types of swearing words. The researcher has found nine data types of swearing that can be categorized into four categories., namely expletive swearing, abusive swearing, humorous swearing, and auxiliary swearing.

The second example of previous study was written by Ushudur et al. (2023). In this study the researcher explained about the types and the functions of swear words in Suicide Squad movie. This research used a qualitative method. This research used theory from Pinker (2007) for swear words and Jay's theory (2000) for function of the swear words. The researcher discovered 30 data of swear words in Suicide Squad movie. There are abusively swearing (10 data), cathartically swearing (eight data), idiomatically swearing (six data), emphatically swearing (two data), and dysphemism swearing with the words (four data).

The third sample of previous study was conducted by Ginanjar and Simatupang (2022) which was done to explain the swearing words in the "Euphoria" series, such as the types and the functions. This study used a descriptive qualitative method. This research used Hughes's theory (2006) for the types of swearing words and Steven Pinker 's theory (2007) for the function of swearing words. The researcher

found 100 data of swear words. There are related to sex (50 data), related to excrement (22 data), related to animal (10 data), related to personal background (seven data), related to taboo or religion or oath (three data), related to mental illness (six data), and related to racism (two data).

From the data above, the three previous studies discussed swear words using different theories. The first study discussed the types of swear words using Andersson and Trudgill's theory. The second study analyzed the types of swear words using Pinker's theory. The third study discussed the types of swear words using Hughes's theory. The researcher discussed the types of swear words used in The Last of Us by using Michael Swan's theory. The researcher also added a discussion of subtitling strategies using Cintas and Remael's theory that were not discussed in the three previous studies. For this research, the researcher collected the data from a television series entitled The Last of Us based on the video game with the same title. This TV Series was released on January 15, 2023 that talks about a 14-year-old girl who may be the last hope to save humanity after a virus outbreak. The English and Indonesia subtitles are taken from HBO GO.

The researcher is interested in analyzing the use of swear words in The Last of Us TV Series because there are so many swear words uttered by adults and teenagers. This study is aimed at analyzing the types of swear words and the subtitling strategies used for analyzing swear words. The importance of this research is expected to be able to distinguish cultural differences between America and Indonesia.

1.2 Statement of Problems

The statement of problems based on the background of the study are:

1. What are the types of swear words used in *The Last of Us* TV Series?

2. What are the subtitling strategies used in *The Last of Us* TV Series?

1.3 Research Objectives

The purposes of this research based on the statement of problems are:

1. To identify the types of swear words in *The Last of Us* TV Series

2. To analyze the subtitling strategies used in *The Last of Us* TV Series

1.4 Scope and Limitation

This research is mainly focused on analyzing types of swear words and subtitling strategies used in *The Last of Us* TV Series. This research uses Michael Swan's theory for swear word and subtitling strategies by Cintas and Remael. The data are taken from *The Last of Us* TV Series episodes 1-9.

1.5 Research Methodology

1.5.1 Research Design

The descriptive qualitative method was used in this research. Descriptive method is an analytical approach where the researcher remains close to the data by using limited frameworks and interpretation to explain the data. According to Creswell and Creswell (2023) qualitative research is learning about problem or issue from participants and conducting research to obtain this information.

This study used words rather than numbers because the researcher used a television series where in the series the characters or participants said some words which later the researcher analyzed some of those words to obtain information.

1.5.2 Data Source

The data source is taken from the TV Series entitled The Last of Us which was released on January 15, 2023 which aired on HBO GO. This series was based on a video game with the same title that talks about a 14-year-old girl named Ellie who has immunity in her body. She became the hope of the world to save humanity from the virus that originated from the fungi. Ellie has to be escorted to a place for her examination and during the trip she was accompanied by Joel. Their journey to the place was not easy especially since Ellie and Joel were not close to each other. In this series, there are many swear words. Ellie, who was a teenager, said many swear words as well as Joel who often said swear words.

1.5.3 Data Collection

The researcher collected the data by:

1) Watching the series from episode one to nine.

2) Finding the swear words from the series.

3) Taking notes of the swear words on both English and Indonesian.

1.5.4 Data Analysis

After collecting the data, the researcher analyzes the data by:

1) Analyzing the data using online dictionaries to discover the meaning of the swear words.

2) Analyzing the swear words using Michael Swan's theory.

3) Analyzing subtitling strategies based on Cintas and Remael's theory.

1.6 The Organization of Writing

There are four chapters in this research. Chapter one is introduction that talks about the background of the study, statement of problems, research objectives, scope and limitation, research methodology, and the organization of writing. Theoretical framework is in chapter two that is used to describe the theory of the research. It contains the theory according to the experts, types of swear words by Michael Swan (2005), and subtitling strategies by Cintas and Remael (2021). In chapter three, the researcher analyzes the data found from the television series. Then, the researcher analyzes the types of swear words using Swan (2005) theory and analyzes the subtitling strategies based on Cintas and Remael (2021) theory. Chapter four is the conclusion of the research.