CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

In this part, the writer explains the background of study, statement of problems, purposes of study, significant of study, scope and limitation of the study, and definition of key terms.

1.1 Background of the Study

Language can be defined as a system of communication using sounds or symbols that enable us to express our feelings, thoughts, ideas, and experiences. The culture of the people, the education level, the emotion, and the feeling of the people can be analyzed through their language. There are many languages in this world. Every country has their own language that they use to communicate with the people in their countries. Language is systems of symbols, designed, for the purpose of communication (Lyons, 1995).

However, there is one general language that used by people around the world to communicate with people from different country. That language is English. According to Wills (Hartono, 2003), a decade ago, there were almost two millions of scientist who, most of them, published their research in every field of knowledge in English. Suryawinata (Hartono, 2003) also states that most of scientific knowledge and technology book are written in English. The problem is there are not so many people understand and comprehend English. So that, people needed the technique to transfer English into another
language in order to get the information and the knowledge from the book that written in English.

Translation is the technique used by non–English speaker to transfer the meaning or the idea from English into their own language without omitted the author intendeds. Translation is the replacement of textual material in one language (source language) by equivalent textual material in another language (Catford, 1965, in Machali, 2009). According to Newmark (1988), translation is rendering the meaning of a text into another language in the way that the author intended the text. In addition to the four basic skills that we need to mastered in order to learning English which are Reading, Speaking, Listening, and Writing, Translation is considered as the fifth skills that learner need to master.

In University Muhammadiyah of Malang, Translation can be chosen as one of the subjects in English Language Education Department (ELED), besides Business English and English for Young Learner (EYL), to learn it more thoughtful. Nonetheless, many ELED students not fully understand about the technique of translation or even for several students contemn translation as a second-class subject that need to be learn. They do not realize that every single time they read, speak, listen, or write an English word, their subconscious mind do a translation into their mother language. Despite of that fact, they still treat translation, as the last choice even translation is the basic skill they need to learn.

The previous research, which analyzes about translation ability of English department student that had been conducted by Jaidie (2009),
entitled “The Ability of Translation Students in Translating a Descriptive English Text into Indonesian”, state that the students’ ability of translating descriptive text into Indonesian was poor. Therefore, in this research, the writer wants to conduct similar research that is entitled “The English Language Education Department Students’ Ability in Translating English Descriptive Text into Indonesian”.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

Based on the background above, the problems of this study are as follows:

- How is The English Language Education Department students’ ability in translating English descriptive text into Indonesian?

1.3 Purposes of the Study

Based on the research problems stated above, the objectives of the study are:

- To know The English Language Education Department students’ ability in translating English descriptive text.

1.4 Significance of the Study

The writer hopes that the result of this study can give some advantages and more knowledge to:
1.4.1 The English Language Education Department Translation Student

The students are going to be motivated to increase their translation ability by practicing continually, not only using descriptive text but also another type of text.

1.4.2 The Translation Lecturers

The lecturers would be able to identify students’ ability in translating, especially a descriptive English text into Indonesian. The lecture can also use the result of this study as a consideration in choosing the teaching technique that suit the students in order to improve their ability in translation.

1.5 Scopes and Limitations

The scope of this study is focusing on the students’ ability in translating a descriptive English text into Indonesian. In this case, the writer investigates the ability of translation students in translating a descriptive English text into Indonesian. Meanwhile, this study is limited to the sixth semester translation students of Academic year 2012/2013 who are taking Translation I (pil) in University of Muhammadiyah Malang.
1.6 **Definition of the Key Terms**

To clarify and avoid misunderstanding the meaning of this research title, the terms necessary are defining as follows:

a. Ability: According to Oxford dictionary, ability is the possession of the means or skill to do something or Talent, skill, or proficiency in a particular area.

b. Translation: According to Newmark (1988), translation is rendering the meaning of a text into another language in the way that the author intended the text.

c. Descriptive Text: According to Hartono (2003), Descriptive text is texts, which tell us about how people, animals, or things are being described or depicted.