

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

For those undertaking a degree, having an experience of working in a professional environment can be an eye opener. Hence why an internship program becomes mandatory in university as to give insight to students and, even more, a chance to look and analyze certain options which they may (or may not) undergo in their career path. An English Letter student, throughout their time during classes in university, will learn and obtain many kinds of knowledge, including language translation.

At first, I was offered two options for my internship: the first was to teach elementary school students, and the second was in Translation Transfer. Personally, while I have worked in the creative writings field as a freelance content writer, working in the translation and localization industry was a completely foreign environment for me. Although, I have much reservation about translation and localization works as I grew up reading Enid Blyton novels such as Famous Five series, Secret Seven series, and St. Clare's series. I did not put much thoughts into it during my childhood, but as I grew older, I realized how complex, intricate, and intriguing translation and localization works was—to the extent that I can safely say that Agus Setiadi, who did the translation works for most of Enid Blyton novels, becomes one of the person I revere to. That memory of my childhood then became a big part of my own motivation in choosing to undergo an internship at Transla-

tion Transfer as, I thought at that time, that was perhaps one and only chance to have a direct experience in translation and localization field.

1.2 The Objective of the Internship

At the beginning of my internship, I have set few goals which I aimed to achieve by the end of my internship terms, which included:

1. To understand the actual functioning and working conditions in the translation and localization industry.
2. To adapt to new challenges by putting myself in a completely foreign environment.
3. To see how much my English language proficiency skill would fare in an actual working environment.
4. To see what kind of knowledge and skills I need to expand while in a working environment.
5. To identify problems at the internship place and suggest solutions to them.
6. To expand my professional network.
7. To see and analyze the prospect of having a career in a translation and localization industry

In this internship report, I will be giving a detailed description of my experience in doing an internship at Translation Transfer, especially my experience in doing translation works in Google Project, and seeing whether by the end of my internship terms, I have achieved all or at least partial goals that I have set for myself.

1.3 The Scope of the Report

In this internship report, I aim to give detailed information about activities that we have done, as well as key problems that I encountered during the internship, which center around management/scheduling problems and freelance working. Ultimately, I seek to offer some solutions which may be considered for better internship practice in the future.

1.4 The Significance

It is hoped that this internship report will serve as one point of reference for the university, the company, and ultimately students who are interested in doing an internship at a translation company in general, or specifically those who aim to have a career (as a freelance translator) in the translation industry. By considering the activities and some potential problems and risks which may arise in both internship and an actual translation job, I hope that better internship practice and better working conditions for freelance workers can be realised in the future.

1.5 Operational Definitions of the Key Terms

1. **Project management:** a process of managing, allocating and timing resources to achieve given objectives in an efficient and expedient manner. (Demeulemeester & Herroelen, 2002)
2. **Planning phase:** a list of tasks or specific activities needed to be performed in order to finish a project or achieve a project's objectives. (Demeulemeester & Herroelen, 2002)

3. **Scheduling phase:** the base plan detailing the time schedule of a project, including what kind and how much resources needed for each time allocation as well as the budget estimates. (Demeulemeester & Herroelen, 2002)
4. **Control phase:** the execution of a project where the organisation needs to perform constant monitoring over the progress in reality while comparing it to planned progress which has been done during previous phases and, if needed to, take a proper measure or action whenever problems arise to make sure the project runs as good as possible. (Demeulemeester & Herroelen, 2002)
5. **Labour precarity:** existential, financial, and social insecurity exacerbated by the flexibilization of labour markets. (de Peuter, 2011)