

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Language is believed to be the chief tool of human communication in which one may express her/his idea, feeling, or emotion to other people. The ability to use language correctly is not attained automatically but it needs a lot of time and effort. For the first time the human should master the skills of language. The skills are listening, speaking, reading, and writing beside vocabulary, pronunciation, and grammar as the sub skills.

By using a language, people can communicate with each other. Using language is not simply as we thought because there is a set of rules that must be followed, which is called grammar. Grammar is used to mean the structure of a language. Grammar of a language is a description of the ways in which the language uses patterns of the structure to convey the meaning. Without using the grammar it would be impossible to learn language effectively, because the grammar helps learners to identify grammatical forms, which serve to enhance and sharpen the expression of meaning. Having a good grammar, learners will be helped in delivering ideas and messages to the readers and learners.

In connection with this, learners need to know the grammatical system of language, so they can communicate with others in transferring the message properly. To use a language well, learners should learn the rules of a language. Brown (1987: 170) said that “second language learning is a process that is clearly unlike the first language learning in its trial and errors nature”. It means that the learners cannot avoid errors in learning second language.

Littlewood (in Fanggidae 2011: 3), stated that by making errors learners will build their new knowledge to use target language. It means that making errors during studying the second language can be considered as a means of building learners' abilities. Making errors is a natural and unavoidable part of the process of learning English. Many kinds of errors arise when the learners write because they do not master the English structure well.

Also, error is the inability of the students in using rules of the components and elements of the second language. The learners often make mistake and even errors in learning, especially when they try to arrange sentences or use tenses in their writing. As a result, they will write sentences ungrammatically. Actually, ungrammatical sentences have great influence when the learners are writing sentences that can be influenced by the first language. Students' errors are very useful ways of showing what they have not learnt.

In Senior High School, one of the suitable ways to build and improve students' ability in writing is by writing a narrative text. In writing narrative text, they try to write their experience because it is an easy way for them, but in writing they usually make errors. It is a common habit for everyone.

In this study writer tries to analyze about the kind of errors made by tenth grade students of SMA MuhammadiyahKupang in writing narrative text based on surface strategy taxonomy.

Based on the background above, propose this study entitled “ **A STUDY ON THE GRAMMATICAL ERRORS IN NARRATIVE TEXT MADE BY THE TENTH GRADE STUDENTS OF SMA MUHAMMADIYAH KUPANG IN THE SCHOOL YEAR 2014/2015** ”.

1.2 Statement of the problems

The writer provides some questions as the statement of the problems in this

research. They are answered after analyzing the data. They are presented below.

1. What are the types of grammatical errors made by the tenth grade students of SMA Muhammadiyah Kupang in the school year 2014/2015 in writing narrative texts?
2. What are the most common types of grammatical errors made by the tenth grade students of SMA Muhammadiyah Kupang in the school year 2014/2015 in writing narrative texts?

1.3 Objectives of the Study

Based on the statement of problems above this study aims at:

1. Finding out the types of grammatical errors made by the tenth grade students of SMA Muhammadiyah Kupang in school year 2014/2015 in writing narrative text.
2. Finding out the most common types of grammatical errors made by the tenth grade students of SMA Muhammadiyah Kupang in school year 2014/2015 in writing narrative text.

1.4 Significance of the Study

The study is expected to present some valuable contributions to the following persons, as presented below:

1. For the writer

By doing this study, the writer may enrich her knowledge on theory of English grammar and errors in writing narrative text.

2. For the English teachers

To provide information for English teachers with some information about students' problems and errors on grammar in narrative text.

1.5 Scope and limitation

There are some kinds of writing such as argumentative writing, expository writing, descriptive writing, and narrative writing. But in conducting this study the writer just focuses on writing, especially on narrative writing. The errors analysed in the view of surface strategy taxonomy. This study is about grammatical errors. We can find student's grammatical errors in both written and oral form. In this study the writer finds out student's grammatical errors in written form.

1.6 Definition of terms

There are some terms that should be defined dealing with the study to make everything clear for the readers.

a) Grammatical

Grammatical is connected with the rules of grammar. Grammar is the rules in a language for changing the form of words and joining them into sentences (Hornby, 2005: 675). Grammatical is an adjective word which has something to do with grammar. In this study it is all the "phrases, clauses, or sentences" which are acceptable because they are correct according to the grammar. In this study, it relates to the student's grammar when they try to produce their own language into writing narrative text.

b) Errors

Errors is the flawed side of learner's speech or writing (Dulay, 1956: 138). In this study, errors means the use of wrong grammar of students in writing narrative text.

c) Narrative text

Narrative text a text that is telling a story (Oxford, 1995: 772). Narrative here means a text that tell about the chronological order of the story, happening or an

event, from beginning to final. In this study, the writer means a piece of narrative text that will be written by the students. .

d) SMA Muhammadiyah Kupang

SMA Muhammadiyah Kupang is one of the state senior high school which is located at KH Ahmad Dahlan Street 17 A, Kupang city, East Nusa Tenggara Province.