

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

This chapter deals with the background of the study, statement of the problem, objectives the study, significant of the study, scope and limitation and definition of terms.

1.1 Background

As human being, people need a means of communication to express feeling, thought and desires, which is called language. By using language people can communicate with each other. Man is a social being. He must build/up relationships with other human being.

In Indonesia, English is considered as a foreign language. English is however taught or learned as a compulsory subject from elementary until the university levels. In order to be proficient in English, people need to have English skills and sub- skills. The English skills include listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Whereas the English sub-skills include grammar, pronunciation and vocabulary. In globalization era, English plays a very important role in overcoming the problems in all fields, which will be faced by each country in the world such as economy, politics, tradition etc. In a writing process sometimes writers, especially foreign language learners, make errors in grammar especially when they write a descriptive text. In writing, the learners commonly do not know the appropriate expression or structure but since they wish to communicate their ideas, they will fall back on the language system with which they are not familiar.

Grammar is a set of rules specifying the correct ordering of words in the sentence level. Richard et al (1985;126) define grammar as a description of the structure of language and the way in which linguistic units such as words and phrases are combined to produce sentence in language.

The errors usually occur in the productive skill, speaking and writing. But to analyze the errors in productive skill it takes much time and requires a high ability. Therefore, the writer decided to analyze only the grammatical errors in the students writing descriptive text.

When the writer did her teaching practice, the writer found that there were errors produced by the students in writing descriptive text. They faced difficult because they still have low competence to use. For example the students produce sentence like: She 20 years old. The omission of to be “**is**” should be placed after the subject. So the sentence should be: *she is 20 years old.*

Based on the problem above, the writer is interested in conducting a research under the topic: **“A Grammatical Error Analysis of the Tenth Grade Students Of SMAN 1 KUPANG in the School Year 2019/2020”**

1.2 Statement of the Problems

Based on the background, the writer formulates the problems as the following questions:

1. What are the grammatical errors analysis made by the tenth grade students of SMAN 1 KUPANG in writing a descriptive text?
2. What is the most common type of grammatical errors found in the descriptive texts made the student tenth grade of SMAN 1 KUPANG?

1.3 Objectives of the Study

Based on the problem statements above, the objectives of the study are as follows.

1. To find out the grammatical errors in descriptive text written by the tenth grade students of SMAN 1 KUPANG.
2. To find out the most common grammatical errors committed by the tenth grade students of SMAN 1 KUPANG in writing a descriptive text.

1.4 The Significance of the Study

This study will give concrete contributions to for the teacher of English, writer and the students of the researched school in learning process of English:

1. For the Teacher of English

To inform the teacher of English in the researched school about the student's grammatical error in writing descriptive text, so it might be useful input for the teacher for the improvement of English teaching and learning.

2. For the students

This study can help students how to develop their writing skill especially grammatical errors in writing descriptive text and their interest to study and learn English.

3. English study program of Widya Mandira Catholic University

This research may be one of the important lessons for the writer because it is given directly by the English study program in each lecture process. In this case, the English study program must focus more on producing quality English teacher candidates in the process of the teaching and learning activities.

4. For the writer

This study is meant to increase the writers knowledge in writing English especially on how to write descriptive text correctly by avoiding the errors found in the study.

1.5 Scope and Limitation

This study is about grammatical errors analysis of the tenth grade students of SMAN 1 KUPANG in the school year 2019/2020. There are various kinds of text in writing such as: narrative text, recount text, procedure text, spoof text and descriptive text. There are some taxonomies used in analyzing the errors as proposed by Dulay (1982:150). They are linguistic category taxonomy, surface strategy taxonomy, comparative taxonomy and communicative effect. However in this study, it does not describe the whole theoretical concept of errors. The writer limits the study only to the errors based on surface strategy taxonomy that refers to omission, addition, misordering and misformation in writing descriptive text.

1.6 Definition of Terms

To avoid misunderstanding of the concepts used in this study, some definitions are provided as the following:

1. Writing

Writing is the act of forming graphic symbols according to certain conventions, to form words, and words has to be arranged to form sentences. (Penny Ur, 1996: 170) Writing in this study, means a descriptive text composed by the tenth grade students of SMAN 1 KUPANG.

2. Descriptive text

Descriptive text is a type of writing that is arranged according to what it looks like or where the objects being are (Smally and Ruetter,1986 : 89) Dealing with this study, descriptive text is the text produced by the tenth grade students of SMAN 1 KUPANG.

3. Grammar

Grammar is the patterns of arrangement of words in sentences and the patterns of arragements of parts of words into words (Lado, 1961 : 142) This study will seek the patterns of grammar in writing descriptive text of the tenth grade students of SMAN 1 Kupang.

4. Errors

Error refer to wrong forms that the people could not correct even if their wrongness were to be pointed out, but it still evident what the learner wanted to say (James 1998: 80).Dealing with this study, errors refer to the wrong forms that

might are used by the tenth grade students of SMAN 1 KUPANG in writing a descriptive text.

5. SMAN 1 KUPANG

SMAN 1 KUPANG is one of private senior high school, located in Kupang City, East Nusa Tenggara Province.