

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Language is known as a tool of human communication. It means that communication cannot be separated from the language because the language has an important role in human life, such as thinking, communicating ideas, opinions, information and negotiating with others.

In the era of globalisation the need of English proficiency is very urgent. To be able to communicate with people from different countries we use English. It is clear that learner needs to speak and interact in English situation as in foreign travel business or other professional reason. Brendan (1994: 18) states that “Students are needed to be familiar with the lexical (vocabulary) and grammatical system of a language if they want to communicate successfully”. The students are hoped to master the vocabulary and grammar in their communication process. Thus, people are generally required to master English.

Error is the important part in teaching and learning process. When the writer did the teaching practice program in SMP Negeri 10 Kupang, the writer found many students made grammatical errors when translating the text from Indonesian into English. As learners they might often make errors in learning, especially when they try to use it both in oral and written

Students’ errors are very useful ways of showing what they have not understood about translating the text from Indonesian into English. Students are

still confused and unaware about errors they committed. The grammatical errors they committed are, for example;

Students : *Gerard pergi ke Kupang setiap bulan.*

Students translation : *Gerard go to Kupang every month.*

The correct translation : *Gerard goes to Kupang every month.*

The kind of error found in the sentence above is omission where, -es is omitted on the word “ go ” , because Gerard is a third singular person.

As stated in the curriculum that descriptive texts are taught in junior high school children.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Menerapkan struktur teks dan unsur kebahasaan untuk melaksanakan fungsi sosial menyatakan dan menanyakan tindakan/kejadian yang sedang dilakukan/berlangsung saat ini, sesuai dengan konteks penggunaannya. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Menyusun teks lisan dan tulis untuk menyatakan dan menanyakan tentang tindakan/kejadian yang dilakukan/terjadi secara rutin atau merupakan kebenaran umum, dengan memperhatikan fungsional sosial, struktur teks, dan unsur kebahasaan yang benar dan sesuai konteks.
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Based on the problem above, the writer conducted a research with the title

“An Analysis on Grammatical Errors in Translation of Descriptive Text from Indonesian into English of the Eighth Grade Students of SMPN 10 KUPANG in the school year 2018/2019”.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

Based on the background of problem that is previously described, there are some problems of this research that will be identified by the writer. Those problems are as follow:

1. What are the kinds of grammatical errors in translation from Indonesian into English committed by the eighth grade students of SMPN 10 Kupang in translating descriptive text?
2. What is the most common grammatical error in translation from Indonesian into English committed by the eighth grade students of SMPN 10 Kupang in translating descriptive text?

1.3 Objective of the Study

In line with the problem statement, there are two objectives of this study. They are stated in the following.

1. To find out kinds of grammatical errors committed by the eighth grade students of SMPN 10 Kupang in translating descriptive text.
2. To find out the most common grammatical error committed by the eighth grade students of SMPN 10 Kupang in translating descriptive text.

1.4 Significance of the Study

This study has some significance for the following person: the English teacher, the writer, and the students.

1. For the Teacher

By this research, the teacher of the researched school can know the student's difficulties in doing translation from Indonesian into English.

2. For the Writer

By doing this study the writer can gain more knowledge and skill in English. The writer is also trained in how to write scientific writing in research.

3. For the Students

By this study the students can know their errors in doing translation from Indonesian into English. Hopefully they will learn from their errors and their English grammar will improve.

1.5 Scope and Limitation

This study is about analysing grammatical errors in translating a descriptive text from Indonesian into English. There are four kinds of error taxonomies, namely linguistic category taxonomy, comparative taxonomy, communicative effect taxonomy and surface strategy taxonomy.

This study focuses on grammatical error. The kinds of error is highlighted from a modified surface strategy taxonomy. The grammatical errors in the light of this taxonomy includes omission, addition, misformation, misordering, and unclassified and miscellaneous.

The students may make errors in learning and using English in basic skills of learning language: listening, speaking, reading and writing, and sub skills of learning language: grammar, vocabulary, pronunciation, spelling. This study concentrates on translation as a tool to find out the errors of the students.

There are some kinds of texts: narrative text, descriptive text, expository text, and argumentative text. This study just concentrates on translating descriptive text from Indonesian to English.

1.6 Definition of Terms

To avoid misunderstanding of the readers, the writer gives some definitions of the terms used in this study.

1. Translation

Translation is the reproduction in a receptor language the closest natural equivalent of the source language message, first in terms of meaning and secondly in terms of style (Nida and Taber, 1974: 12). In this study, translation means a reproduction in English the closest natural equivalent of the Indonesian.

2. Grammar

Grammar is a set of statements about how a language works. It includes, a description of the principles for combining words to form grammatical sentences. It can express thought, ideas, and feelings in sentences. Every language has its own grammatical system. Grammar is important in communication. The rules show how words are combined, arranged, to show certain kinds of meaning (Swan, 2005).

3. Errors

Errors 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).

4. Error Analysis

Error analysis is simply defined as systematic description and explanation of errors made by the learners or users in the target language. Investigation was the analysis of errors made by the learners since they represent the most significant data in which a reconstruction of their knowledge of the target language could be made, (Ubal, 1981:8).

Error analysis is the process of determining the incidence, nature, cause, and consequences of the unsuccessful language. Error analysis is a study to identify the causes of those errors. It also finds the consequences of those errors, (Carl James, 1981: 1).

5. Descriptive Text

Descriptive text is a kind of the text which describes person or a thing. Its purpose is to reveal a particular person, place, or thing. Descriptive is the description and accounts which are usually used by the teachers. Guba and Lincoln (1981: 119) state literal description as the activity being evaluated, the circumstance under which it is used, the characteristics of the people involved in it, nature of the community in which it is located.

6. SMPN 10 KUPANG

It is one the public junior high schools located in Jl. Prof. Dr. Herman Johannes, Lasiana, Kec. Kelapa Lima Kota Kupang.