

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter consists of some sub-chapters, such as background of the study, problem statements, objectives of the study, the significances of the study.

1.1 Background of Study

English is an important means of communication which is used worldwide. It is an international language that is used in various fields. In Indonesia, English is taught as a first foreign language (Lauder, 2008) and it is included in the Indonesian curriculum which states that the students should have English lessons in their school. However, many Indonesia English learners still find it difficult to learn because there are many rules that must be followed.

Thombury (1999: 1) stated that, “Grammar has been concentrated almost exclusively with analysis at the level of the sentences. Thus, a grammar is description of the rules that govern how a language is formed”.

Moreover, grammar has some topics that must be learnt by students. One of general topic in grammar is tenses. Bauer (1983: 157) states that, “tense is usually defined as relating to the time of action, event or state”. McIntosh, (2013: 1619) stated that, tenses is the expression of action in time. Tenses is any of the forms of verb which show the time at which an action happened.

In this study the writer found some previous studies related to studying the present perfect tense.

Raharjo (2018) studied the Ability in Using Present Perfect Tense of the

English Department Students of Lambung Mangkurat University Banjarmasin. The result of the research showed that the ability of the English Department students is categorized 'average' with the average score is 61.

Susanti (2019). She investigated ability in understanding and using the present perfect of second semester students of English Education Department of STKIP Agama Hindu Singaraja. The results' is that students experience difficulties. The difficulties may be ranked in order, i.e. not so difficult (present perfect expressing state-up-to-the-present), difficult (present perfect expressing indefinite past and habit-in-period-leading-to-the-present), and very difficult (present perfect expressing resultative past).

Ramadhani (2016). She studied the ability of the first year students of SMAN 12 Pekanbaru in using Present Perfect Tense. The result of the research showed that the first year students of SMAN 12 Pekanbaru in the use of have/has got the mean score of 67, the use of irregular verb got the mean score of 47.94 and the use of regular verb got the mean score of 53.5. Therefore, it can be concluded that the highest ability of the first year students of SMAN 12 Pekanbaru in using Present Perfect Tense was in the use of have/has.

Rochman (2017) studied of analysis the use of present perfect tense made by freshmen studying at English Department in "Universitas Jenderal Soedirman (UNSOED). The result shows that most respondents still had difficulties in applying present perfect into sentences appropriately.

Reinilda (2019). This study is on the Ability in Using Present Perfect Tense of the Eleventh Grade Students of SMK Kencana Sakti Kupang. The result of this study showed that (a) the eleventh grade students of SMK Kencana Sakti Kupang

were able to use present perfect tense. (b) Their ability level is “Fairly Good” with a total score of 70% or 7 as the grade.

From the previous studies above, there are many differences to the study. The differences are, on the participants, mostly the students treated as the subject were from senior high school up to university and the places of their study. Based on those findings, we can see that almost, all subjects of the study appear not to master the use of present perfect tense. Therefore, in this study the writer was encouraged to find out the level of ability in use present perfect tense by the Second Semester Students of English Education Study Program Widya Mandira Catholic University Kupang in the Academic Year 2022/2023 who have studied present perfect tense. The second semester students of Universitas Katolik Widya Mandia Kupang have studied a number about grammar, especially the Present Perfect Tense at the beginning of the second semester.

1.2 Research Problem

The topic is specified into two problem statements. They follow:

1. Are the second semester students of English Education Study Program of Widya Mandira Catholic University Kupang in the academic year 2022/2023 able to use present perfect tense?
2. What is the level of the second semester students of English Education Study Program of Widya Mandira Catholic University Kupang in the academic year 2022/2023 ability in using present perfect tense?

1.3 Objective of the Study

Going in line with the two problem statements this study has also two objectives. There are two objectives of the study, they are:

1. To find out whether or not the second semester students are able to use present perfect tense.
2. To find out the ability level of the second semester students of English Education Study Program of Widya Mandira Catholic University Kupang in the academic year 2022/2023 in using present perfect tense.

1.4 Significance of the Study

The significance of a study is actually the usefulness or the benefit of a study of human beings. Thus, this study has some benefit for the following persons:

1. For second semester students of English Education Study Program of Widya Mandira Catholic University Kupang in the academic year 2022/2023.

The students will be informed of their ability in using present perfect tense.

2. For the writer

This study is an opportunity for the writer to implement his knowledge in doing a scientific research.

3. For The English Education Study Program

The result of this study can give information about the ability of the second semester students on English. Their strengths and weaknesses in using present perfect tense.