

## **CHAPTER I**

### **INTRODUCTION**

This chapter consists of six points to be treated i.e. background of the study, statement of problems, objectives of the study, significance of the study, scope and limitation, definition of terms.

#### **1.1 Background of the Study**

Language is the most important tool in the life of human beings. It is used to communicate. Indeed, language influences all aspects of life. Even, it is said that language can not be separated from the life of human beings.

There are so many languages in the world. Among them is English. As other languages, English has its own rules. The rules of English are different from other languages. Lado (1956) argues that the differences of English may cause difficulty for those who learnt it. Learners tend to keep their mother tongue as a rule instead of the rules of a foreign language.

Learning English is very interesting, because we can know many words, how to pronounce them, how to listen them, and how to write them. English is an international language which is used by many people around the world including Indonesia.

In Indonesia English is regarded as the first foreign language. It is learned compulsorily from elementary school up to senior high school. By learning English,

learners are expected to be able to use it in their daily life. To be able to use it, learners have to be proficient in the English skill namely : Listening, Speaking, Reading, and Writing which are supported by English sub skill : grammar, vocabulary, pronunciation and spelling. Grammar is the structure of a language and the way in which linguistics such as words and phrase are combined to produce sentences in the language(Richard et,al.1985).

Simple present tense is used to express daily activities to talk about general truth to talk about frequency. The formula of simple present tense: Subject+Verb1+(s/es)'+object+place+time. Example: *I meet my friends at campus everyday*. Subject: *I*. verb 1: *meet*. Object: *my friends*. place: *at campus*. Time:*everyday*.

In this study the writer chooses the eighth grade students of SMP Negeri 2 Aesesa Satap in school year 2019/2020. The reason to choose this school to be the subject of this study, because the writer experienced when doing teachers training or Praktek Pengalaman Lapangan (PPL) she found that students still committed errors and mistakes in using simple present tense. For example: *He usually came late to campus*. Came is an error because it is a verb 2 that is not suitable for simple present tense. It should be: '*He usually comes late to campus*'.

By seeing at those problems, as an English teacher to be in the future, the writer intends to analyse the ability level of students at SMP Negeri 2 Aesesa Satap in using Simple Present tense and the area of difficulties committed by the students in constructing Simple Present tense. In order to answer those problems, the writer is going to conduct a research entitled "**A Study on the Ability in Using Simple**

## **Present Tense of the Eight Grade Students of SMP Negeri 2 Aesesa Satap in the School Years 2019/ 2020”.**

### **1.2 Statement of the Problems**

The problems to be answered in this study are formulated in the following questions:

1. Are the eighth grade students of SMP Negeri 2 Aesesa Satap in the school year 2019/2020 able to use the simple present tense in sentences?
2. What is the ability level of the students in using the simple present tense in sentences?

### **1.3 Objective of the Study**

The objective of this study are stated in the following:

1. To find out whether or not the eighth grade students of SMP Negeri 2 Aesesa Satap in the school year 2019/2020 are able to use simple present tense in sentences.
2. To find out the level of the students ability in using the simple present tense in sentences.

### **1.4 Significance of the Study**

In the followings are the significance or benefits of the study to English Teachers and students of SMP Negeri 2 Aesesa Satap and to the writer herself and to the English study program.

1. For the Students

By knowing the results of this study, the students of SMP Negeri 2 in Aesesa especially the eighth grade students in the school year 2019/2020 will know how to use simple present tense in sentences. The students can be motivated to study grammar in general and simple present tense in particular.

2. For the English Teacher

The English teacher at the researched school would be informed about his/her student's mastery regarding tenses, in order to make necessary changes regarding the material, method, and strategy of teaching simple present tense in sentences.

3. For the Writer

Through this study, the writer can study and know more about the use of simple present tense in sentences. And this study is useful for her to improve her own knowledge particularly about simple present tense.

4. For The English Study Program

The result of the study can give information about the ability of the students of junior high school on English to the lecturers and the students of the English study program.

### **1.5 Scope and Limitation**

In general there are three kinds of tenses, they are present tenses, future tenses, and present tenses. There are some kinds of tenses, they are present simple, past continuous, past perfect, and past perfect continuous. The writer only chooses and focuses her study on the simple present tense because based on the writer's observation and experiences, some students still committed mistakes in the use of the

simple present tense. This study will be conducted to the students of SMP Negeri 2 Aesesa Satap in the school year 2019/ 2020

## **1.6 Definition of Terms**

There are some terms in this writing that need to be explained. The definitions are intended to ease the reader to understand part of the whole thesis. They are presented in details below.

### **1. Ability**

Ability is a potential capacity or power to do something physically or mentally Hornby, (1987: 2). In this study ability means the students ability in using present tenses in English sentences. especially the students of the eighth grade of SMP Negeri 2 Aesesa Satap in the school years 2019/2020.

### **2. Tense**

It is the form the verbs that may be used to indicate time or actions state expressed by verb as stated by Hornby, (1989:1324). In this study, *tense* refers to time context when an activity happens habitually or in daily life.

### **3. Simple Present Tense**

Simple present tense is a tense for an action completed in the present at definition time (Thomson, A.J and Martined, A.V, 1990: 153) Past tense is form of a verb which is usually used to show that the act or state described by the verb occurred at a time before the present (*Richard, et al.* 1985: 209). This forms of verb is called verb-2 in English linguistic.

#### **4. SMP Negeri 2 Aesesa Satap**

SMP Negeri 2 Aesesa Satap is one of the junior high schools in Aesesa, Nagekeo, NTT Satap. It is the same level as junior high school. It is located in Jln. Aegela-Mbay, Nagekeo East Nusa Tenggara Province.