

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter contains six subchapters of the study. They are background, problem statements, objective, significance, scope and limitation, and definition of terms. They are explained in detail below.

1.1. Background of the Study

Language is believed to be the chief tool of communication which one may express her/his idea, feeling, or emotion to other people. The ability to use language correctly is not attained automatically; however, it needs a lot of time and effort. Learners must be good at four skills named: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. They must be good at vocabulary, grammar, and pronunciation.

Language plays the important role in improving student's intelligence, social and physical activities. Language helps students gain success in every subject at school. As one of the four skills, writing has traditionally occupied a place in most English language. Writing can be used in the classroom as one of the techniques to help the students to be interested in learning English. Student's writing can provide useful evidence of success or failure or confusion. English does not serve only as a universal language but also as a tool to communicate in oral and written form, to understand and figure out the information, mind, feel, science, and technology, and culture. English subject in the schools is directed to improve the skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing. Thus students are to understand and create a variety of texts both for oral and written language. Each text has the potential to achieve communicative, structural, and linguistic characteristics that are different. Therefore, before teaching school students to be actively involved in the understanding and creation of

texts, teachers need the training to understand and be able to create various types of text. Harmer (2001, p. 79) Stated that writing is a form of communication to deliver thought or to express feeling through written form.

There were some previous writers who had written the same title as the writer does right now such as: Ndelo (2008) conducted a study entitled “Error analysis in writing of SMPK Giovani Kupang in the school year 2008/2009. The writer wanted to find out what errors make by the students. The writer said that all of the students made errors in grammar; Elphia (2008) conducted a study with the title “The analysis of errors committed to writing a composition of the first-year students of SMAN 1 Kupang Timur in the school year 2008/2009. The purpose of this study was to analyze the errors in writing composition. In analyzing the students’ grammatical errors the writer used the surface strategy taxonomy. She found that there are 142 numbers of errors made by the students. All students committed errors in grammar, vocabulary, and mechanics. Ballo (2013) conducted a research entitled “An Analysis of Grammatical Errors in Facebook Feeds of the Member of FBI Crew”. She conducted this study with the purpose to find out the types of errors and the most common errors occurred in face book feed of the FBI crew. Based on the objectives she used descriptive method to analyze and classified the students’ errors committed by the user of face book feed cover miss formation 22 (51.17%), miss ordering 6 (13.95%), addition 6 (13.95%), and omission 9 (20.93%). The total numbers of errors committed by the user are 43. She concluded that the most common errors committed the user of face book feeds are miss formation it is about (51.16%).

Based on the writer’s experience, writing a paragraph is difficult. The writer assumes that the difficulty is also faced by many students include senior high school students. A paragraph is a type of text functioning to describe a particular person, or thing and the

students must use the simple present tense in writing a paragraph. The students are also expected to use the spatially order in writing paragraphs.

Based on the explanation above, the writer would like to conduct this study under the title: **“An Analysis on Grammatical Errors in Descriptive Writing of the Eleventh Grade Students of a Senior High School in Malaka in the School Year 2020/2021”**

1.2. Problem Statements

Based on the background of this study, the writer specified the topic in two problem statements, as formulated in these questions.

1. What are the errors made by the eleventh-grade students of a senior high school in Malaka while writing descriptive text?
2. What is the most common errors committed by the eleventh-grade students of a senior high school in Malaka while writing descriptive text?

1.3. Objectives of the Study

Based on the problem above, the objectives of the study are:

1. To find out the errors in writing descriptive writing made by the eleventh-grade students of a senior high school in Malaka.
2. To find out the most common error committed by the eleventh-grade students of a senior high school in Malaka in writing descriptive writing.

1.4 Significance of the Study

This study is useful for the writer's and English teachers teaching at the research in the schools, and the students.

1. For the Writer

This study is meant to increase the writer's knowledge in writing English and on how to write paragraphs correctly and to avoid the errors found in the study.

2. For the English Teachers

To provide information for the English teachers in the researched school about the students' errors while writing paragraphs, so it might be useful for the English teachers for the improvement of the English teaching and learning.

3. For the Students

The students would be informed about the grammatical mastery and to help them in using the correct grammar while applying it to produce good writing descriptive text.

4. For the English Department Study Program

The result of the study would give information to the lecturers and students of English Education Study Program about the grammatical errors while writing descriptive text in Senior High School include one of a senior high school in Malaka.

1.4. Scope and Limitations

This study is about grammatical errors while writing descriptive text for the students of the eleventh grade of a senior high school in Malaka in the school year 2020/2021. There are various kinds of writing such as narrative text, recount text, procedure text, and descriptive text. Among those texts, the descriptive text is going to be analyzed by the writer. There is some taxonomy used in analyzing the errors as proposed by Dulay (1982, p. 150). They are linguistic category taxonomy, surface strategy taxonomy, comparative taxonomy and communicative effect. Even though, in this study the writer 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, disordering and information.

1.5. Definition of the Terms

The writer would like to give the definition of some terms in order to help the readers to understand this study.

1. Writing

It is an opportunity to convey something about yourself, for the communicating ideas to the people beyond your immediate vicinity and to learn something you did not know (McCrimmon, 1984, p. 6). In this study, students can convey their ideas by writing a descriptive paragraph composed by the eleventh-grade students of a senior high school in Malaka.

2. Descriptive Text

Descriptive text is a type of writing which is arranged according to what it looks like or where the objects being are (Smalley and Ruetter, 1986, p. 89). Dealing with this study, the descriptive text is the text produced by the eleventh-grade students of a senior high school in Malaka.

3. Error

Error refers 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, p. 80). Dealing with this study, errors refer to the wrong forms which are used by the eleventh-grade students of a senior high school in Malaka while writing a descriptive paragraph.

4. Haitimuk

Haitimuk is one of the villages in the sub-district of Weliman of Malaka Regency, East Nusa Tenggara. It is located in the west of Malaka.