

## **CHAPTER I**

### **INTRODUCTION**

As an introduction, the writer discusses background of the study, statement of the problems, objectives of the study, significant of the study, scope and limitation, and definition of terms. Those items are explained in details below.

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

Nowadays English is an international language that all countries in the world learn. This is because English as an international language used by people to communicate with other people from different countries around the world. Syafi'i (2007: 97) also points out that, nowadays, the mastery of English is a must if one does not want to be left out, especially, in terms of information and technology.

In learning English, there are four skills which are very important to be learned by students such as listening, speaking, reading, and writing. These skills should be emphasized by the teacher in the process of teaching and learning. Besides, there is one basic element which is really important that should be mastered in learning the four skills, it is called grammar. According to Manser (1991:182), grammar is rules for forming words and making sentences. It means that, grammar is one of the important language components which cannot be ignored in learning English. By studying grammar, the students are not expected to make mistake instead to use English correctly.

By mastering grammar, a learner will perform better in listening, speaking, reading and also writing. It means that mastery of English grammar is necessary in developing English skills. According to Hornby (1986:51) the learners who wish to

Speak and write in English are concerned with grammatical correctness. Swann (1980:456) states that grammar is the words change and show different meanings and how they are combined into sentences.

One of the topics in grammar in English language is passive voice. Furthermore, Samelson (1980: 160) states that passive voice is the original receiver becomes the subject and the original doer of the preposition by. In other explanation, passive voice is a grammatical construction in which the subject as receiver of action by the doer of action (Kasmini and Siwi: 2016).

The use of active and passive sentences should be learnt and balanced. A writer should use two types of sentences. Active and passive sentences in learning to take out a type of the sentences produced. Although students shouldn't focus only on active to learn but students should learn passive sentences too in order to have the balance to take control of the material especially in preparation for examination.

Based on my experience in the learning process, students did not understand sentences of active and passive voices well. They got confused when they learn them.

Based on the background above, the writer would like to carry out a research in order scientifically to understand the ability of the eleventh grade students of SMAKN 3 Kupang in using active and passive voices.

## **1.2. Research Problems**

Based on the background of the study the writer formulates the problems in the following questions:

1. Are the students able to use active and passive voices in present and past tenses?

2. What is the ability level of the students in using active and passive voices in answering the multiple choice questions?

### **1.3. Objectives of the Study**

Based on the problems above, the objectives of this research are to know:

1. Whether or not the students are able to understand active and passive sentences in answering the multiple choice questions.
2. The eleventh grade students' ability level in using active and passive sentences in answering the multiple choice questions.

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

Aim of the study is supposed to have benefit for the writer, the teacher, the students, and for the English study program too.

1. The Writer

The aim of the study for the writer is to have benefit to become a professional teacher in the future. The writer is also trained in how to carry out the research and know how to use active and passive sentences as well.

2. For the English Teacher

To inform the English teacher at the researched school about the ability of the students to understand how to use active and passive sentences so that the English teacher can increase and keep on the method of teaching English, especially the teaching of active and passive sentences.

3. For the Student

To inform the results of the eleventh grade students of SMAK N 3 Kupang about how far their ability in using the active and passive voices and they can be motivated to study English, especially about active and passive sentences.

#### 4. For English Study Program

The result of the study will be beneficial for English study program as a term of giving any information or contribution about the teaching and to know how far the student able to understand active and passive voices at the researched school.

### **1.5 Definition of Terms**

In this part, there are some terms used in this study and the writer would like to help the readers to understand the study. The writer also would like to describe the fundamental theory in this study. The terms which should be defined in this research are as follows:

#### **1. Ability**

It is a capacity of someone physically or mentally that can develop through optimal exercise (Hornby: 1995). defines ability is the mental or physical capacity power or skill, task or work to measure how good the result is.

#### **2. Active Sentence**

It is a sentence which the verb has active sentence and reveals that the subject does the activity (Hartanto, 1986: 318). It means that, in an active sentence the subject of the sentence becomes the actor and performs the action, work, activity and it is stated by the verb

#### **3. Passive Sentence**

It is a sentence which the activity is done toward the subject (Murphy, 1990: p.68). It means that the object of the active sentence becomes a subject in a passive sentence and the subject of the active sentence becomes an agent in a passive sentence. The activity is done toward the subject.

#### **4. SMAK NEGRI 3 KUPANG**

It is one of state schools located on Jalan S.K Lerik KotaKupang EastNusa Tenggara Province.