

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of The Study

Essentially, language is very important for communication. It involves human activities to interact and socialize with other people in a community. Yawkey (1981) in Laka (2007:1) argued language has basic role for human activities. It is a system of sound used by a group of people to communicate and carry out their normal activities. Thus all human daily activities are made possible by means of language because it belongs to human beings and intimately tied up our life. It can be said that language is medium of communication.

Through communication people can do interaction within a community in a certain social situation. Nasr (1980:1) in Suku (2008:2) says that language has a social function and that without it a society would probably not exist. Its function in a community has contributed various aspects of societies. The functions include to convey message, to exchange information, to share ideas, thoughts, feelings, expressions, friendships, partnerships, culture. However, these functions sometimes are not achieved among the speaker to the listener or the interlocutor in communication. Communication deals with the process of both the participants to gain the understanding as results of their collaborative partnerships. Thus, language is defined as a social process of human being dealing with communication through conversation.

According to Holasco and Arthur (1987:5) in Laka (2007:2), conversation takes place when two or more people have the right to talk or listen without having to follow fixed schedule such as agenda. It is the basic set or form of talking that people can do in interaction as the way to exchange information.

In process of communication, the learners make errors in grammar. Grammar is generally thought to be a set of rules specifying the correct ordering of words in the sentence level. Richard et al (1985; 126) define it as a description of the structure of language and the way in which linguistic units such as words and phrases are combined to produce sentence in language. The knowledge of grammar will help the learner to understand how to use grammar in communication without too much trouble.

Based on the writer experience during her teaching practice, she found some students still made errors in their speaking which making their idea did not across well. It happened because of their lack of grammatical knowledge. Inspired by previous ideas, the writer intends to carry out a study entitled **“AN ANALYSIS OF GRAMMATICAL ERRORS IN THE CONVERSATION OF ELEVENTH GRADE STUDENTS OF SMAN 2 KUPANG IN SCHOOL YEAR 2014/2015”**.

1.2 Statement of Problem

Based on the background above, this study is meant to answer the following questions:

1. What are the grammatical errors in the conversation made by eleventh grade students of SMAN 2 KUPANG?

2. What are the most common grammatical errors in the conversation made by eleventh grade students of SMAN 2 KUPANG?

1.3 Objective of Study

This study was carried out to achieve the following objectives:

1. To know and find out the grammatical errors in conversation made by eleventh grade students of SMAN 2 KUPANG.
2. To know and find out the most frequently grammatical errors in conversation made by eleventh grade student of SMAN 2 KUPANG.

1.4 Significance of Study

Thus, this study has some benefits for the following people;

1. For the writer herself

This study can broaden her knowledge to conduct a study on grammatical errors in conversation and also to implement her knowledge that she got during her study.

2. For students

This study enables the students to know their ability in conversation especially about grammatical errors. Moreover, they can find the way to improve their speaking skills.

3. For the teachers

This study can be a good input for the teachers to plan and develop English as the foreign language and also becomes the significance to know the students' ability and find the way to teach English especially through conversation.

1.5 Scope and Limitation

This study is about error. There are some taxonomies used to classify errors. These classifications are based on linguistic category taxonomy, surface strategy taxonomy, comparative taxonomy and communicative effect taxonomy. Here the writer limits this study to one taxonomy only, namely surface strategy taxonomy. It covers addition, omission, misinformation, and misordering. This kind of error classification is usually made by the students in writing and speaking. But in this study the writer only analyzes oral error in the conversation made by eleventh grade students of SMAN 2 KUPANG. The topics of conversation was daily activity, hobby, love, alcohol, and funny experience.

1.6 Definitions of Term

There are some terms used in this study that should be defined. The definition may help the readers to understand the study as a whole. The term that should be defined in this study are as follows:

1. Analysis

It is detailed study or examination of something in order to understand more about it or careful examination of a substance in order to find out what it consist of (2005:49).In this study the writer analyze error in students' conversation.

2. Grammatical

It is connected with the rules of grammar, correctly following the rules of grammar (Hornby, 2005: 675). In this study the writer analyze grammatical error in students' conversation.

3. Error

It is flawed side of the learners speech and writing (Polizer and Ramires, 1973:138). The main purpose of this study is to find out the error in conversation made by students.

4. Conversation

Jenlink and Carr (1996, p 31-38) stated that conversation is a medium for change in education. The purposes of conversation are: 1) Transacting: conducted for the purpose of negotiating or exchange within an existing problem setting: 2) Transforming: conducted when individuals suspend their own personal opinions or assumptions, and their judgment of other viewpoints: 3) Transcendent: where the purpose is that of moving beyond or "leaping out" of the existing mindsets of schools, learning, and educational change, and creating an entirely new learning system.

5. SMAN 2 Kupang

SMA Negeri 2 Kupang was state senior high school located at Jalan Perintis Kemerdekaan in kupang city.