

# **CHAPTER 1**

## **INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 Background**

Language plays an important role for daily communication. One of the important languages in the world is English language. English language is one of subjects in Indonesian's education curriculum. English plays a very important role in technological and scientific advances; instruments such as computer and internet use English. Meanwhile, a lot of textbooks, newspapers and magazines are printed in English. English is also used as a means of communication within international trade and business.

The education world of learning English takes a long process. In teaching and learning English there are four skills speaking, reading, listening and writing. Basic of English Language such as grammar, vocabulary, pronunciation are to support the fourth skills above. Writing as one of the four skills has a place in most English language syllabus. Writing used as one of the techniques to help the student learn English especially in writing skill. Writing as a part of the aspect of language skill is actually important to be learned. As stated by Richards (1985; 409) writing is a system of symbols which represent the sounds, syllabus, or words of language. In writing a good composition there should be involved some language component such as grammar and usage, spelling, capitalization, punctuation, form and the exact word choice, in order to make the readers easily understand about our writing. Grammar is generally thought to be a set of rules specifying the correct ordering of words in the sentence level. Richards (1985:126)

define grammar as a description of the structure of a language and the way in which linguistic units such as; words or phrases are combined to produce sentence in language.

Grammar mastery is important in writing text, without the correct grammar the text can not be understood by the readers, because in written form we do not have direct interaction like we do in speaking. Students at level senior high school have learned many kind of text such as; narrative text, descriptive text, report text and recount text. This study the writer will focus in recount text. Recount text is a text retelling about the events that happened in past or event that experienced by the writer of this text. In learning process there are still many problems faced by student in writing, especially in writing recount text such as grammar and usage, spelling, capitalization, punctuation, form and the exact word choice.

These problems turn up because the eleventh grade students' lack of mastery on grammar in simple past tense. Simple past tense is one of tenses which has context with recount text, where recount text uses past tense as grammatical pattern because past tense is used to express an activity or events which happened in the past. Students' mastery on simple past tense affect on their writing recount text. Both of these materials have relationship, for example; in writing recount text students should use verb<sub>2</sub>, adverbs of time and etcetera. So, the significant of students' achievement on simple past tense and writing recount text can be measured from result study of students that state by value. The rate values of relation from both materials can be measure in correlation study. Correlation is a study about relation of both materials that is shown in value numerical; in order

words the relation of both materials can be counted. As (Djiwandono, 2008;170) says: correlation is the relation about two variables that's shown in score as result of the test. Based on the statements above the writer is interested in making a study with the title **A Study on Correlation Between Students' Mastery on Simple Past Tense and Writing Recount Text of The Eleventh Grade Students of SMA Negeri 5 Kupang in School Year 2016/2017.**

### **1.2 Problem Statement**

This study was conducted in order to answer the questions as stated in the following:

1. How significant is the correlation between students' mastery of the simple past tense and writing recount text of the eleventh grade students SMA Negeri 5 in Kupang in schoolyear 2016/2017?
2. What are the factors that influence the mastery of simple past tense and writing recount text of the eleventh grade students SMA Negeri 5 Kupang in school year 2016/2017?

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

Based on the problem above the research will be conducted to reveal:

1. The correlation between students' mastery of simple past tense and writing recount text of the eleventh grade students SMA Negeri 5 Kupang in school year 2016/2017?
2. The factors that influence on students' mastery of simple past tense and writing

recount text of the eleventh grade students SMA Negeri 5 Kupang in school year 2016/2017.

#### **1.4 Significant of the Study**

The significance of the study is as follows:

- 1) For teachers and researchers, the finding of the research will inform them about grammatical components that need to be given emphasis to assist students to write a grammatically accurate in recount text.
- 2) For the students, they are motivated to practice more about grammar seriously and on the other side they can write several types of text without much difficulty.
- 3) For the readers, it can inform them about the correlation between students' mastery of past tense and their achievement in writing recount text.

#### **1.5 Scope and Limitation of the Study**

There are many factors that influence English grammar and writing, but this study writer only focus on English tense and writing text especially simple past tense and writing recount text. Related to these both materials the writer will do a study on correlation between students' mastery of past tense and their achievement in writing recount. Therefore, the writer conduct the topic of this study is **A Study on Correlation Between Students' Mastery on Simple Past and Writing Recount Text of the Eleventh Grade Students of SMA Negeri 5 Kupang in School Year 2016/2017.**

## 1.6 Definition of the Terms

### 1. Correlation

Correlation is the relation about two variables that's shown in score as result of the test, (Djiwandono, 2008;170). It means this study used correlation as the way to find out the relation of both materials that is shown in score of students' mastery simple past tense and writing recount text.

### 2. Simple Past Tense

It is said that something was true in the past or to indicate that an activity or situation began and ended at a particular time in the past (Betty S. Azar, 1999:24).

Simple Past tense is one of English materials that is learned by students. It is used to express the events that happened in the past. In this study the writer defines simple past tense as test material which is done by students for get the test score.

### 3. Writing

Writing is a system of symbols which represent the sound, syllables, or word of a language, (Richards, 1985;409). This study is writing as an activity, where students write a recount text.

### 4. Recount Text

Recount text tells the reader what happened in the past. Recount text is one of story genre retelling about the events that experience by the writer in the past, (Pardiyono, 2007; 63). This text defines by the writer as writing test ability for students.

#### 5. SMA Negeri 5 Kupang

SMA Negeri 5 Kupang is a state senior high school located on Thamrin Street Number 7, Oebobo Kupang- NTT. The school was built in 1991.