**CHAPTER I**

**INTRODUCTION**

This chapter is introduction that includes background of the research, the formulation of research problem, the objectives of the research, significance of the research, scope and limitation of the research, definition of key terms, and organization of the research.

1. **Background of the Research**

English language is important for students to learn currently, because it is the language of world which used as a standard of international communication. As argued by Brown (2000:118) “English is not frequently learned as a tool for understanding and teaching US or British cultural values. Instead, English has become a tool for international communication in transportation, commerce, bank, tourism, technology, diplomacy, and scientific research”. All of English teachers suggested to the students about the importance of English language, so the students should learn it comprehensively. In learning English language, there are four skills. Those are listening, speaking, reading, and writing skill. To learn language, mastering those four skills is very necessary. Hopefully, all of the students learn them to create a good communication with other.

Writing is one of the four language skills that have to be achieved by someone who is learning English language. Writing is an important part of studying English, because studying writing can improve the student’s skill in manipulating their sentence construction. This writing skill, of course, will not be automatically possessed by those who are learning English after being graduated. In this case, it is closely related to talent and much training to do.

The writing skill uses written form of language, which there are few rules that build to create a good writing. For example, before we start writing, we should know such as organizing, vocabulary, grammar structure, and mechanics of writing.

Absolutely, the teaching and learning English process need an understanding about mechanics of writing, so it can guide us to know how to use it and what the function is. According to Sárosdy *et al* (2006:60), “At the first stage writing is a mechanic process during which all the technical aspects of writing can be acquired”. Because every day students are able to use simple sentence; but sometimes they cannot sign by using mechanic when they are speaking. When students perform speaking, mechanic is usually neglected, but when students perform writing, students need to understand mechanic to produce accurate sentences.

One of the rules that we always meet is mechanics. Mechanics always appear when we read or write the text. They become crucial; because it can make the text is clearly to be understood. Nevertheless, sometimes the language learner like student often ignores it. In addition, the teacher cannot assess the students’ writing well. If the student missed or made a fault in putting the one of punctuation or spelling, thus the teacher is difficult to identify or understand what the sentence purpose is.

Mechanics of writing are often ignored in teaching and learning process. Especially in learning of language as English, they only focus in grammar structure when they write or speak. In fact, mechanic is to be the crucial part, because it can make the sentence easily to understand. For instance in writing, mechanic determines what the sentence purpose; while in speaking, it will be little difficult to identify. Because there is no appeared symbol; but some mechanics can be identified by the intonation of speaking.

Second Language Acquisition (SLA) often believed that the language could be learned by anyone, which someone learns the language transformation from the first language (*mother tongue*) to the second language (*target language*). However, there must be an *error* when the students learn about the second language for example in structure of grammar. Ellis (1986:21) stated, “Where the first and the second language share a meaning; but express it in different ways, an error is likely to arise in L2, because the learner will transfer the realization device from his first language into the second”. It presents that the first and second languages have a same meaning in person idea basically; but they are applied in different ways or patterns so that the error cannot be avoided. In the other hand, the error is also caused by the disturbances or the lack of knowledge, so the error or the mistake must be going to appear when the student used the second language. As that reason, the teacher needs to analyze the errors carefully. Because the most obvious approach to analyzing error is to study the learner speech and writing of learner by using *Error Analysis*.

Dulay (1982:138) stated as follows:

“Studying learners’ error serves two major purposes: (1) it provides data from which inferences about the nature of language learning process can be made; and (2) it indicates to teachers and curriculum developers which parts of the target language students have most difficulty producing correctly and which error types detract most from a learner’s ability to communicate effectively”.

Based on those statements, it means that error analysis guides the teacher or curriculum developer to identify the students’ errors easily. They can improve a material which be taught to the students appropriately. It intends that the appropriate material can be absorbed effectively by the students when they are in teaching and learning process. Error analysis helps the teacher identifying the students’ errors in constructing a new system of language, for they possibly held in them some of key to the understanding of the process of second language acquisition.

In the other hand, error analysis also helps the students to identify what the errors they are made, because the students cannot apply their language acquisition directly without committing error firstly. They cannot achieve the target language perfectly when the errors appear. However, the errors are included in learning process of language basically, so that they can elevate their acquisition of the target language and learn it comprehensively to achieve the good communication by analyzing their own errors.

Realizing this fact, the writer is interested in investigating **“An Error Analysis on Mechanics of Writing Made by the Students of Fourth Semester of IAIN Tulungagung Academic Year of 2013-2014”.**

1. **Research Problems**

One the basis of the background of the study, the research problems can be formulated as follows:

* + 1. What is the type of an error on mechanics of writing made by the students of fourth semester of IAIN Tulungagung academic year of 2013-2014?
    2. What is the type of an error on mechanics of writing frequently made by the students of fourth semester of IAIN Tulungagung academic year of 2013-2014?

1. **Objectives of the Research**

Based on the problems of the research, the objectives of the research are presented below:

* + 1. To know the type of an error on mechanics of writing made by the students of fourth semester of IAIN Tulungagung academic year of 2013-2014.
    2. To know the type of an error on mechanics of writing frequently made by the students of fourth semester of IAIN Tulungagung academic year of 2013-2014.

1. **Significance of the Research**

The results of this research are expected to be useful for:

1. The teacher

The result of the study can be useful information in teaching writing and the teacher can use it as the alternative method to analyze the error made by students. In the end, the teacher is able to teach the material appropriately. Moreover, the teacher can teach the kind of sentence.

1. The students

It can be hoped to increase the students’ writing skill and it gives support to the students more to be active in teaching and learning process. It can make students more carefully to construct the sentence without forgetting the mechanics of writing. In addition, the sentence of students’ product can be understood clearly.

1. The other researchers

The result of this study can be used as reference for the other researcher to solve the same problem of learning and gain to the next research especially in writing skill; because it needs more components to construct the good written paragraph or essay.

1. **Scope and Limitation of the Research**

The scope of this study is to know An Error on Mechanics of Writing Made by the Students of Fourth Semester of IAIN Tulungagung Academic Year of 2013-2014. The researcher focuses on the students’ mechanics use in writing.

1. **Definitions of key term**

To clarify terms used in this study, the writer stated important terms as follow:

1. Mechanics

The system of part in a living thing together which performs a particular function in the written word. This mechanic has a function, which make the utterance or sentence easy to be understood.

1. Capitalization

Capitalization is a capital letter that acts as signal to reader which announces the reader in order to become unambiguous.

1. Punctuation

Punctuation is the art or system of separating written words by the use of punctuation marks – the period, comma, colon, semicolon, etc. They announce that divide the writing into the sentences and phrases.

1. Spelling

Spelling is a system to spell written word when the word includes something into.

1. **Organizations of the Research**
   * 1. Chapter I

This chapter is introduction that includes background of the research, the formulation of research problem, the objectives of the research, significance of the research, scope and limitation of the research, definition of key terms, and organizations of the research.

* + 1. Chapter II

This chapter is reviewed of literature that discusses the definition of the nature of error, error and mistake, error analysis, the factors of error, the classifications of error, definition of mechanics, and writing as skill.

* + 1. Chapter III

This chapter is research method that discusses research design, population and sample of the research, research instrument, data collecting method, and data analysis.

* + 1. Chapter IV

This chapter is research findings and discussion that discuss the result of an error analysis on mechanics of writing made by the students of fourth semester of IAIN Tulungagung academic year of 2013-2014.

* + 1. Chapter V

This chapter includes conclusion and suggestion for improvement. The suggestions are presented for the teacher, the students and the other researchers.