

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

In this chapter, the researcher presents some points related to the research. They are background of the research, formulation of research question, objective of the research, significance of the research, scope and limitation, formulation of hypothesis and definition of the key terms.

A. Background of the Research

Nowadays technology has become a part of people life. The existence of technology has affected people in every aspect. According to Hanafizadeh, et al, (2017), technology such as computers, Internet, wireless devices, social networks has affected people lifestyle in spite of age and gender. For instance, people used technology in business to gain more advantages and can save money, people used technology to communicate with other through a mobile phone, email, faxes, more easily, people used technology for online shopping, and etc. Moreover, the development of technology has changed people in a way of thinking and doing things. According to Grabe, (2007) the development of technology nowadays has gone through innovations and it changes the societies from the way they think, work and live. As a result, people tend to be more depending on the use of technology in their daily life.

Besides, the development of technology has spread in many sectors including education. The existence of technology gives numerous advantages to the development of education itself. Technology has changed and gives

new ways in teaching and learning process become more interesting and easy. According to Alonso et al, (2005) technology has changed the teaching process becomes simpler and without limitation in time or space. By implementing technology in education can make the teachers have various ways of teaching. For example, the teacher can use online learning in teaching and learning process, the teacher can create virtual learning that can motivate students in learning, the teacher can create instructional materials in teaching, and etc.

Furthermore, in learning English as a foreign language, it is needed tools and media to help the students learning a language effectively. Technology can be used as a tool to support language learning to become effective and positive if it is used correctly. The existence of technology gives numerous advantages to learners in learning English. Technology gives new ways in learning process become more interesting and easy. It offers various ways for students in learning English to become more interesting and fun. Lam and Lawrence (2002) and Pourhosein Gilakjani (2017) said that technology helps the learners in choosing their own learning process and they can have access to a lot of information. For instance, learners can improve their English skills through online learning, mobile learning, game online, video on YouTube, and etc. In addition, technology can motivate the learners to learn the language more (Tomlison, 2009 and Gençler, 2015). Through the internet, the learners can get unlimited sources in learning language so that it can motivate the learners in learning the language.

Likewise the use of technology in writing. The students need technology as a tool to identify mistakes and other language errors in their writing. In the context of learning English, it is needed to master the four skills these are speaking, writing, reading, and listening. Among the four skills, writing becomes a difficult skill to be mastered for the students. As a result, the students often do mistake in writing, such as grammatical error, wrong spelling, wrong punctuation and etc. Writing is a difficult skill for native and non-native speakers because in writing the writers must concern with the component in writing such as content, organization, purpose, audience, vocabularies, and mechanics such as capitalization, spelling, and punctuation, (Rass, 2001: 30). Moreover, writing is a conceptual of work in generating ideas, thinking and organizing them into statements and paragraphs that can be understood by a reader (Nunan, 2003:3). It means that in writing it is needed the integration of the generating ideas and how the way the writers arrange it into a good paragraph that clear enough to be read by a reader. Hence it makes writing a little bit difficult for the students to be mastered.

Moreover, students of English Education Department commonly face errors in their writing, such as grammatical error, wrong punctuation, wrong spelling and etc. Alfiyani (2013) stated that the University students of English Education Department sometimes use wrong grammar in writing. Most of them still use their native language to express their idea that different from the rules of English. According to Celce Murcia & Larsen-Freeman (1983, p.

2) the learners' ability in writing is affected by their ability in mastering grammar. In addition, Chomsky (1960 in Richards, 1987: 144) states that the knowledge of grammar underlying our ability to produce and understand sentences in a language.

Therefore, the use of technology in writing is needed. Hence, the existence of grammar checker in writing is very useful to identify mistakes and other language errors in their writing. According to Techopedia, grammar checker is a software application or part of a software application that helps in checking the correctness of grammar of the text. Moreover, grammar checkers are worked to identify mistakes and other language errors, it works by making use of natural language processing and grammatical rules. According to Phoebe Stedman (2012), there are lots of benefits of using spelling and grammar checker software. For the students, teachers, professionals, businessmen who are busy enough and other research workers spelling and grammar checker software is a hot cake. John Day (1988) also argued that the grammar checker process helps students think about their writing.

There are so many grammar checkers that are used to identify mistakes and other language errors in writing, such as White Smoke, Ginger, Reverso, Language Tool, Paper Rater, Hemingway Editor, Pro Writing Aid, Spell Check Plus, Grammarly, etc. In this research, the researcher chose one of the grammar checker that is Grammarly because Grammarly is a good tool to help the students to identify mistakes and other language errors in their

writing. Grammarly is a widely used online grammar checker that is offered free for individual users. By using Grammarly the learners' writing will be mistake-free, clear and impactful. In addition, it can enhance vocabulary by identifying and correcting contextual errors. Another advantage is the tool helped to improve the learners writing style and make the written word more engaging and effective.

Moreover, the learners can easily fix spelling mistakes, grammar mistakes and other punctuation mistakes like an apostrophe, comma splice, etc. The learners also can upload their copy to their online platform to get proofreading done and also with their free browser extension the users can proofread their social posts, emails, etc. in no time. In addition, it also offers some other powerful features like vocabulary enhancement and Plagiarism detection in their premium version.

There are some previous studies related to this study. The first research was conducted by Wijayanto (2014) about grammar checker by using Spelling and Grammar Checker in Microsoft word 2007 proved that it enhances the students' writing ability and motivation in writing. The subject is from the students of Senior High school and using CAR design. Another study conducted by Siswandi, (2016) by using grammar checker that is WhiteSmoke checker and the result shows that WhiteSmoke checker can enhance English writing classroom.

Therefore, in this study the researcher interested to conduct research towards University students especially English Education Department

students in the fourth semester because they are in advance level and have passed their writing classes. The researcher wants to know whether Grammarly checker is effective or not towards students' writing quality. In this research, the researcher will use Quantitative research design to conduct research and the research entitled The Effectiveness of Grammarly checker towards students' writing quality of the fourth semester of English Department at IAIN Tulungagung.

B. Formulation of the Research Question

In line with the background of the study, the researcher formulates the research problem as follow: "Is there any significant difference between students' writing quality that indicated with correct spelling, grammatically correct, correct punctuation, correct sentence structure and style before and after using Grammarly checker?"

C. Objective of the Research

The purpose of the study is to analyze the effectiveness of using Grammarly checker towards students' writing quality of the students of the fifth semester of English Education Department at IAIN Tulungagung.

D. Significant of the Research

The study is expected to be significant as follows:

1. For English lecturer

The result of this study is expected can give a contribution to the lecturer of English Education Department to solve the student's' problem in writing.

2. For the students

The researcher hopes that this study is expected to help the students to identify the languages error in their writing and can motivate the students to learn grammar, spelling, and punctuation in writing by using Grammarly checker.

3. For future researchers

The researcher hopes that this study can inspire other researchers to conduct further researches about grammar checker or other topics related to errors to enhance the existing of the study.

E. Scope and Limitation

Scope and limitation of this study are used to avoid uncontrolled study. In this research, the researcher focused on the students' writing, especially students' writing quality by using Grammarly checker.

The researcher limits the problem areas into more specific one which focused on the students' writing quality of the fourth semester students of English Department at IAIN Tulungagung.

F. Hypothesis

Hypothesis is the tentative answer of the variable in which the truth must be tested, based on the previous statement, the writer has two hypotheses (Hamid Darmadi: 2011), namely:

1. H_1 (The alternative hypothesis): There is a significant influence of using Grammarly checker towards students' writing quality of the students of the fifth semester of English Education Department at IAIN Tulungagung.
2. H_0 (null hypothesis): There is no significant influence of using Grammarly checker towards students' writing quality of the students of the fifth semester of English Education Department at IAIN Tulungagung.

G. Definitions of Key Terms

1. Writing is the act of generating ideas and arrange it based on the writing component into words, sentences, and paragraph.
2. Technology is the result of modern knowledge about science and computers that help people in solving their problems in their daily life.
3. The grammar checker is a kind of application that is used to correct the writing error such as grammar error, wrong spelling, punctuation, style and etc. automatically.
4. Grammarly is kind of writing application that corrects the error in writing and it is operated similarly to Microsoft Office grammar and spelling checker but it is more advanced and intelligent.