

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

This introduction chapter discusses the research background, research problems, research objectives, research significances, scope and limitation, definition of key terms and organization of the research.

A. Research Background

Language is one of the wonderful gifts that are given by God to humanity. Humans use language to express their mind and emotions, to learn, to communicate with others, and to get their wants and needs.

There are many languages in the world. One of them is English which has become an international language. However, it is not easy to learn English but all of people are possible to learn more than one language.

In language learning, language skills are very basic things developed. Listening, speaking, reading and writing are language skills that language learner often work with. Developing all those skills is very important since language's function is a mean of communication and communication means the application of those skills. Listening and reading are called as receptive skills then speaking and writing are called as receptive skills.

Recently, skill in writing becomes more and more important since it has an important role in global communication, especially after the booming of the digital technology. The competency in writing will help much if one wants to

contact people around the world through social media like facebook, twitter or yahoo messenger. Through writing, one can communicate to and share information with others. For those who want to become members of international business, administrative or academic communities, they have to become proficient writers.

Hedge (2005:51) states that effective writing requires several things: a high degree of organization regarding the development and structuring of ideas information and arguments. Furthermore, Hedge mentions features such as: a high degree of accuracy, complex grammar devices, a careful choice of vocabulary and sentence structures in order to create style, tone and information appropriate for the readers of one's written text. Grammar is one important aspect that should be mastered in order to make a well structured writing. However, writing in different language is not always as easy as writing in their own language since there are some different rules in the writing systems and it is possible for them to make errors by those differences.

Making errors in speaking and writing is a part of the process of learning English. Many kinds of errors arise when the learners speak or write something because they do not master the English grammar well. According to Spillner (1991:1), errors produced in the process of foreign language acquisition are thought to be caused by more or less unconscious transfer of mother tongue structures to the system of the target language. It is natural that errors have found in students writing.

Analyzing error is necessary in language learning since some students will not be able to fully express their problem because they do not know how to start expressing what they have not understood yet. By analyzing the errors, the teacher can have some input related to the students' language learning process, including students' difficulties and any information about the students' grammar achievement. Besides that, the teacher can determine the appropriate method in teaching.

Here, the researcher was interested to conduct a research about analyzing error in writing made by the first semester students of English Department of IAIN Tulungagung since those students recently graduated from different senior high schools with different writing ability in English. It is important to know the first semester students' errors to improve their writing ability in the next semester.

From the discussion above, the researcher intended to conduct a research entitled "Common Grammatical Errors in Writing Made by the First Semester Students of English Department of IAIN Tulungagung". The purpose of this research is to describe the most common grammatical errors made by the first semester students of English Department of IAIN Tulungagung.

B. Formulation of Research Problems

Considering the given research background, the researcher was interested to find out the answer of the two main problems, they were:

1. What are the most types of grammatical errors in writing made by the first semester students of English Department of IAIN Tulungagung?
2. What are the possible sources of errors made by students?

C. Research Objectives

According to the research problem above, the researcher makes the objectives as follows:

1. To find out the most types of common grammatical errors in writing made by the first semester students of English Department of IAIN Tulungagung
2. To find out the possible sources of the errors in writing made by the first semester students of English Department of IAIN Tulungagung

D. Research Significances

This research has significances. These are:

1. The English lecturer

The result of this research is expected to give contribution for English lecturer to know the errors in writing made by first semester students of English Department of IAIN Tulungagung. Then the teacher can handled the errors earlier, pay more attention to and treat them more about the students' lacks. So, they can make a good writing in the next semester.

2. Students

By reading the result of this study, the students will know their weaknesses then they are expected to improve their writing ability and then they are expected to learn how to make a good writing.

3. English Teacher

It hopes that the result of this research can help the English teacher to know the students' writing ability and weakness then the teacher can

minimize the weakness and improve their ability before they graduate from senior high school.

E. Scope and Limitation of the Research

This research is intended to uncover common grammatical errors made by the first semester students of English Department of IAIN Tulungagung. The area of grammar aspect is so wide, so specifically, the scope of this research is in the area of traditional grammatical rule. The specific discussion about this kind of grammar (grammatical errors) studied will be explained on the next chapter. This research is also limited in this area of writing made by the first semester students.

F. Definition of Key Terms

Some terms which are frequency used in this research are:

1. Grammatical Errors

Grammatical errors are defined as noticeable deviation which are considered ungrammatical or break any grammar rules.

2. Source of Error

Error source in this research is seen from the perspective of intralingual errors, thus, the researcher did not relate the errors found with native language of the students.

G. Organization of the research

This research is defined into six chapters. The first chapter is introduction. The first chapter consists of research background, formulation of research

problems, research objectives, research significances, scope and limitation of the research, the definition of key term, and organization of the research.

The second chapter is review of related literature. In this chapter, the researcher writes the definition of theories related to this research. In this research the researcher presents discussion the nature of writing, errors and mistakes, definition of error analysis, concept of grammatical error, sources of errors and previous studies.

The third chapter is research method. In this chapter, consists of research design, data and data source, and technique of data collection, technique of data verification, and data analysis. The chapter four consists of data presentation and data finding. The discussion is in the chapter five. The last chapter, chapter six consists of conclusion and suggestion.