

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

In this chapter, the writer presents some aspects that are very important for the topic of the research. They are the background of the research, research problem, objectives of the research, significance of the research, and definition of key terms.

A. Background of the Research

Language is a mean of communication among people. By language people are able to obtain a lot knowledge and experiences. Language is signaling system which operates with symbolic vocal sound, and which is used by group of people for the purpose of communication (Susanto: 2007-2008: 1). It is used by people to communicate, to interact and to transfer his idea to the other people. Therefore, language is really important for human being.

There are many kinds of language in the world. English is one of them. English is one of the most widespread languages in the world. People use it either as the first or second language. Mastering English is very important in the globalization era just like today. By mastering English people will be easy for getting wider access to spread of knowledge and information.

In Indonesia, English is learned as a foreign language. It can be seen in The Decree of National Education Minister No.22/ 2006 states that English is determined to be the one of the subject for Junior High School students, and it is taught as the foreign language. They have to learn the four English skills: listening, speaking, reading, and writing.

The students learn English starting from elementary school to university level. Even, today we will find that students at kindergarten level have been introduced English early.

However, English in Indonesia is only used for teaching learning process at classroom activity. It is not used for daily communication. Hopefully, it is suggested that students should apply their English in many chances. In fact, when they are outside the class, they will forget their English. As the result, students are not familiar with English, they will not really master English well. As native speaker of Bahasa Indonesia, students will find many difficulties in mastering English. English and Bahasa Indonesia are slightly different. If the students do not realize that, they will be influenced by the rules of Bahasa Indonesia in their English. This makes EFL students create many errors in using English especially in productive skills such as speaking and writing.

When students learn English actually they focus on four skills to be mastered, they are listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Among the four skills speaking is considered as the most difficult and complicated language skill to be learned by the students in every level of education. According to David Nunan (1999:39) to most people, mastering the art of speaking is the single most important aspect of learning a second or foreign language, and success is measured in terms of the ability to carry out a conversation in the language. So, the students must control those aspects in speaking. In addition they must also search the ideas to speak. Searching the ideas to speak is also difficult one to do. Robert (1961: 239) states that the ability to speak a foreign language is without doubting the most highly prized language skill, and rightly so because one who can speak a language well can also understand it and can learn to read it with relative ease.

However, one important aspect of speaking that should be concerned by students is grammar. Grammar is defined by Brown (2001:362) as the system of rules governing the conventional arrangement and relationship of words in sentence. Grammar is very important since it also takes role in delivering idea. Grammar mastery is needed by students in order to enable them to deliver the message correctly, errors in the area of grammar can lead to misunderstanding in both spoken and especially written communication.

For EFL students, mastery the grammar is really important especially in speaking skills. Another description about grammar is defined by Harmer (2001:12) states grammar as description of the ways which words can change their form and can be combined into sentence in that language. If the grammar too carelessly violated, communication may suffer. Based on the description stated by Harmer, we can see the important role of grammar in delivering the ideas, when someone violates the grammar rules, communication would not run harmoniously. Grammar really takes important roles in speaking. In order to compose a good speaking, someone have to construct each sentences in acceptable grammatical form. The rules of grammar help to build the way speaking takes place, and ensure that it can be easily understood by the people who listen it. Errors in the area of grammar surely will mislead the listen.

In fact, mastering the grammar isn't easy to do. There are many reasons why students found that grammar looks difficult to be mastered. One of the reasons about this phenomenon as I stated above, English and Bahasa Indonesia have different rules. For example English has concepts of tense for verb and subject agreement, in contrast grammar in Bahasa Indonesia does not have it. The next, English has the formation of regular plural nouns and irregular ones, but it is not happen in Bahasa Indonesia. Besides that, Bahasa

Indonesia does not have gender pronouns and its pronouns are not various as English of which pronouns depend on their position in their sentences. Those basic aspects contribute many EFL students often make grammatical errors in speaking.

Errors in second language learning are difficult to avoid. Errors are so natural in learning second language. According to Dulay, (1982:138) Errors are flawed side of learners' speech or writing, they are those parts of conversation or composition that deviate from selected norm of mature language performance. In the process of developing mastery of target language, a language learner can not learn the language without first systematically making errors. Errors is part of learning itself.

However, people must know different between errors and mistake first. According to Brown (2000:217) there is a different between errors and mistake. A mistake refers to performance error that is either random guess or a "slip", in that it is a failure to utilize a known system correctly. A mistake is a slip that a learner can self-correct but an error is what a learner cannot self-correct. In order to understand the process of constructing a new system of language should be analyzed carefully.

Based on those considerations above the writer is interested in conducting a study on grammatical error in speaking made by the second graders students at SMP Negeri 2 Gondang Tulungagung in 2014-2015 the Academic Year.

B. Research Problems

1. What type of errors do the students make in speaking skills?
2. What is frequency of each type of errors?

C. Objectives of the Research

1. To find out to what extent the second grade students of SMP Negeri 2 Gondang Tulungagung have mastered in speaking skill.
2. To analysis kinds of errors that they make in speaking skill.

D. Significance of the Research

Hopefully, this result of the study contribution to the teachers, the students and the next researcher.

1. The result of this study is theoretically expected to give knowledge on some theories to the teachers in determine a better speaking skill, so they can choose a speaking skill that suitable for students.
2. The result of the present study is practically expected for the teacher to know closely of errors that are often made by the students in speaking, especially in their grammar words.
3. For the next researcher, it can be used as a reference and may give contribution to conduct investigation in same area. In addition, the result of the study can be used as source of information to develop similar research.

E. Definition of Key Terms

1. Error analysis is the fact that learners do make errors, and that these errors can be observed, analyzed, and classified to reveal something of the system operating within the learner, led to a surge of study of learner's errors.
2. Speaking is an interactive process of constructing meaning that involves producing, receiving, and processing information.

3. Grammar is defined by Brown (2001:362) as the system of rules governing the conventional arrangement and relationship of words in sentence, grammar is very important since it also takes role in delivering idea. Grammar mastery is needed by students in order to enable them to deliver the message correctly, mistake in the area grammar can lead to misunderstanding in both written and especially spoken communication.
4. Chomsky (in Dulay et.al, 1982: 49) states that there are errors caused by the factor of competence. Based on the statement above, Corder indicated the differences between errors of performances and errors of competence.