

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Languages can be based on speech and gesture, sign, or writing, and are a structuring system for human communication. We can communicate with each other and share thoughts, feelings, and facts through language. According to Verdeber (2004), language is a systematic way of expressing thoughts or emotions through the use of words and other visual cues that have recognizable meanings. According to Aronoff and Janie (2001), the primary purpose of language is to facilitate communication, and this purpose is expressed through utterance.

Realizing the significance of English as a spoken and written worldwide language, English plays a significant role as a method of communication among people in the world for business, economy, and other purposes. English is a subject that is mandated to be taught in Indonesian schools as part of the core curriculum. From elementary school to college, it is difficult. There are four abilities that students learn in the English curriculum. They are doing all four while speaking and listening.

Particularly for second languages (SL) and foreign languages, English is vital (FL). English is a foreign language in Indonesia. Indonesian students find it challenging to learn English. Students who learn English should be able to speak in the language about anything. People must have a basic understanding of English, language proficiency, and other skills in order to perform the communication role.

One of the supporting skills for writing is grammar. However, the issue is that some students make mistakes when they attempt to construct a sentence that will eventually lead to a strong paragraph. It is well known that Indonesian grammar differs from English grammar.

Writing is the process of putting thoughts, beliefs, and ideas into a written form. Aside from that, writing also involves making handwritten letters, communicating ideas or viewpoints, and creating and describing stories. To ensure that readers can comprehend what they have written, English language learners must pay close attention to current grammar. However, pupils still commit a lot of grammatical errors when writing an English paragraph.

However, many students get errors in writing. Based on pre-survey at the third semester students', it can be seen that the students get difficulty in constructing good sentences. Besides that, the students have limited vocabulary in writing. They do not know the meaning of the words and the usage of suitable words. In addition, the problem is about grammar when the students write paragraph.

Making mistakes while studying English as a second language is acceptable since it helps pupils identify their weaknesses. Researchers can identify common student errors by analyzing errors that students make when writing paragraphs.

Based on the explanation above, the researcher interested to conduct the research entitled **“An Analysis of Grammatical Error on the Students’ Writing at Third Semester English Education Department of Universitas Maritim Raja Ali Haji.”**

1.2 Identification of Problem

Based on the background of problem, the researcher would identify the following problem in grammatical error, the problem are:

1. Students do not master grammar to write,
2. Students have a limited vocabulary,
3. Students have problem using grammar when they makes a paragraph to a good paragraph.

1.3 Limited of Problem

In this research, the researcher would like to discuss only about an analysis of grammatical errors found in the students' paragraph at third semester English education department of Universitas Maritim Raja Ali Haji.

1.4 Research Question

Referring to the background of problem, the researcher would like to state the research question as follows: what types of grammatical errors are found in the students' paragraph at third semester English education department of Universitas Maritim Raja Ali Haji?

1.5 Purpose of Research

Referring to the formulation of the problem, the purpose of research is to analyze and found grammatical errors in the students' paragraph at third semester English education department of Universitas Maritim Raja Ali Haji.

1.6 Significance of the Research

Considering the problem to find grammatical error in the student paragraph, the study is expected to give some benefit:

- a) For the students, this study can help them to find out some information about grammar, which can help them when make a good paragraph.
- b) For the teachers, the study can help teacher to find out what students need to teach how write paragraph without making any errors.
- c) For the researcher, the researcher hopes this research is very useful for other researcher and can provide information about grammatical errors.

1.7 Definition of the Key Term

The researcher would like to state the definition of the key word or several term concerning to the topic, in order to avoid misunderstanding about the research.

The definitions are as follows:

1. Analysis

Analysis is an activity to check or investigate an event through data to find out the actual situation.

2. Grammatical Errors

Grammatical error to describe error in perspective grammar examples of incorrect, unconventional, or controversial usage, such as misplaced modifier or an inappropriate verb.

3. Paragraph

Paragraph is a unit of writing in a large body of work. A paragraph express a particular topic or theme. Paragraph have purpose to express a writer thoughts on a particular point in a clear way that is unique and specific to that paragraph.

