

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1. 1 Background

Language is a system of communication used by people. There is no communication conducted without language. As a means of communication, language is the channel to deliver intentions and feelings. It allows the users to interact with other people. In a communication, the speakers must recognize the interlocutors. The speakers must consider the language before speaking. For example, the word macro is only understood by the people of a certain level of education. However, general words are more easily understood by general public. Therefore, a communicative language is required in communication.

Language is the use of a system of sounds and words. Sounds and words have many meanings. They relate to ideas and information in the world. Every word has its own meaning. One word may have several meanings. Baker (1992: 11) stated that there is no one-to-one correspondence between orthographic word and elements of meaning within across languages.

The meaning of a word, sometimes, depends on the speaker. It is important to recognize what the speaker actually means. The speakers want to deliver their intention using their own words. Communication would be conducted well when the speaker and the listener understand each other. To result well communication, the listener must get the message of the speaker via inference because sometimes a speaker has implicit meaning.

There are many words in many languages which have more than one meaning. One of them is the word 'sorry'. The word 'sorry' has been spread over the world as well as English and it is used by many people of different countries. Indonesia is one of the countries which the people use the word 'sorry'. Indeed, Indonesian scholars have integrated the word 'sorry' as Bahasa Indonesia. It can be seen in the *Kamus Besar Bahasa Indonesia (KBBI)* (2005, third edition), the word sorry exists with a little changes in writing; *sori*. In KBBI, the meaning of the word *sori* is only to apologize. In daily speaking, the word *sori* is rarely used in formal conversation by Indonesian people unless they speak in English.

The word 'sorry' is commonly used to express politeness to other people. However, the context results a significant distinction in the use of the word 'sorry'. In the context of formal conversation, the meaning of the word 'sorry' which is used by Indonesian people is same as the meaning in the dictionary and as commonly used by people. For example, when a student would like to talk to her teacher, she or he starts it by saying 'sorry' to express politeness. However, in informal conversation, some people do not use the word 'sorry' to express politeness.

The utterances of the word 'sorry' have several purposes. It is not only for apologizing. It is shown in informal conversation, when a speaker offers something that is assumed to be negative to the other speaker, he or she refuses it by saying 'sorry'. Take for example, a student offers his or her friend to marry with an ugly man, then his or her friend refuses it by saying 'sorry'. Another example, a student judges her friend that she has not taken a bath and go directly

to campus. Then she denies it by saying ‘sorry’. One more example of the use of the word ‘sorry’, a student tells her friend about another student who kisses her boyfriend in a public place, then she asks her friend whether she ever did such a thing or not, then her friend denies it by saying ‘sorry’. It is clear that the word ‘sorry’ utterances, in informal conversation, has several purposes.

From the explanation above, the purpose of the use of the word ‘sorry’ varies. It is interesting to analyze the purposes of the use of the word ‘sorry’, especially the use by those who study English. It is because the word ‘sorry’ is originally from English. The researcher prefers to observe the students who study in an English study program since they have more intensive learning than the other students from different department. The researcher is interested in finding if the English students use the word ‘sorry’ as its meanings. In this research, the researcher analyzed the use of the word ‘sorry’ by the English study program students of University of Trunojoyo Madura since it is easy for the researcher to collect the data.

The word ‘sorry’ that is discussed is the English word since the word ‘sorry’ which is used by the English study program students of University of Trunojoyo Madura is originally from English. It can be proved when they are asked about the origin of the word ‘sorry’. It can also be proved when they use the word ‘sorry’ in writing, the spelling is s-o-r-r-y, rather than *sori*. Yet, they use it not only when they are speaking English but also when they are speaking in their own language like Bahasa Indonesia, Javanese, Madurese, etc.

The researcher discussed about the speaker meaning in informal conversation. Therefore, the approach that is used is pragmatics. There are many studies that have been done by many researchers which use pragmatics approach, especially for researchers who discussed the word 'sorry'. However, so far, the researcher found that the research with the same topic as "A Study of the Use of the Word 'Sorry' in Informal Conversation among English Study Program Students of University of Trunojoyo Madura" has not been done by any researcher. It indicates that this research is new and original. This research is done to fill the gap of the previous studies.

1.2 Statement of Problems

This research focused on following statement of problems:

1. What are the purposes of the students of English study program of University of Trunojoyo Madura in saying the word 'sorry' in informal conversation?
2. What is the most dominant purpose of the use of the word 'sorry' used by the students of English study program of University of Trunojoyo Madura in informal conversation?

1.3 Objective of the Study

The researcher found two research problems of the use of the word 'sorry' in informal context between English study program students of University of Trunojoyo Madura as stated in the statement of problems. Therefore, the researcher can illustrate the objective of the study into two objectives:

1. To describe the purposes of the English study program students of University of Trunojoyo Madura in saying the word 'sorry' in informal conversation.
2. To find out the most dominant purpose of the use of the word 'sorry' used by the English study program students of University of Trunojoyo Madura in informal conversation.

1.4 Significance of the study

Theoretically, this research gives a contribution to the Linguistics theory, especially Pragmatics. It also gives the readers more knowledge about several purposes of the use of the word 'sorry' especially in informal conversation. Practically, this research gives the readers more understanding about the speaker's meaning in uttering the word 'sorry'. This research also helps the readers recognize what the purposes that the English study program students of University of Trunojoyo Madura use in saying 'sorry' for avoiding misunderstanding in having informal conversation with them. Not only applied for conversation with the English study program students of University of Trunojoyo Madura, but also with other people as long as it is suitable with the analysis done by the researcher.

1.5 Scope and Limitation of the Study

The scope of this research is Pragmatics because it discussed the speakers' meaning. The data and the participants of this analysis were limited in order to keep it out of the topic and ensure that there is still no research that had analyzed the same topic with the same data and participants. The data were limited to the

word 'sorry', rather than 'thank you', 'no' or other words. The researcher focused only on the the purpose of the use of the word 'sorry'. There are so many students that the researcher decide to limit the participants. The participants of this research are the English study program students of University of Trunojoyo Madura.