

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

In this chapter, the researcher will give clear explanations of the background of the study, statement of the research problem, the objective of the study, the significances of the study, and the scope and limitation of the study. Those are important to be explained because they will describe this study generally.

1.1 Background of the study

Mastering English is very important because English is the international language used to communicate and to be able to connect various countries in the world. English is also very necessary among others for education at university because most of the books written in English. In addition, more developments are happening in this country. It starts from free trade and increases number of foreign companies in Indonesia, so that is why the use of international languages such as English is very widespread. Of course, for prospective entrepreneurs (who wants to be international entrepreneurs) and job seekers (who wants to apply in the international companies) have become a must to master the English language to be able to follow and to be successful person in this modern time.

Furthermore, mastering English is obligation for the students of English department. They must be competent of linguistics or literature of English. Although, they are not skillful in these two things, at least they are expert in basic skills. They are listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Some students

interviewed by the writer said that one aspect of English language that many students consider very difficult to learn is writing. The students find grammar as difficult term. So many students write with many grammatical errors.

Brown (2001) said that “Second language learning is a process that is clearly not unlike first language learning in its trial and errors nature.” It means that the students of second language learning cannot avoid errors in process of learning because it’s influenced by the first language acquisition. But the occurrence of errors gives positive contribution to the English learner to have better understanding (Tizazu, 2014).

There are many reasons why foreign learners, especially Indonesian learners produce some errors in learning English. One of the reasons in this occurrence is English and Indonesian language. They have different rules. For example, English has concepts of tense for subject verb agreement. But grammar in Indonesian language does not have it. Moreover, English has the formation of regular and irregular plural noun. Besides, Indonesia language does not have gender pronouns that are not various as like in English in which pronouns depend on their position in sentences. On the other hand, Indonesian language will not be found such as those terms.

English learners often make mistakes and commit errors, especially when they try to arrange sentences or use some words while writing. As a result, they write sentences with grammatical errors. There are two grammatical errors in English; they are Morphology and Syntax (James, 1998). But according to writer’s

experience, most students have a notion that learning syntax is complicated. Furthermore, Kim (2008) states about the reason why we must study syntax. According to him, Syntax can help us to illustrate the pattern of a sentence more effectively and clearly and also it can enable to analyze the structure of a sentence in a systematic way. So that's why, the writer chooses syntax as the main ideas to conduct this research.

Syntax is a branch of linguistics which explains how words are put together to build phrases, how phrases are put together to build clauses or bigger phrases, and how clauses are put together to build sentences (Miller, 2002). Syntax is properties of human language (Tallerman, 2011). Moreover, syntax is a central component of human language (Valin, 2004). Syntactic analysis is used to analyze and investigate the language phenomena through the sentence by using syntactic theory (Francis, 1958). Wekker & Haegeman (1985) view syntactic analysis as “determining” the relevant component part of a sentence and describing these parts grammatically”. It aims at discovering in which the component part of sentence are combine to form of structure of the sentence. Above argumentation means that syntax is the most important aspect in human language as it aims at understanding words arrangement in the sentence.

There are many studies about syntactical error; one of them is done by Faisal (2013). He analyzed the papers of the 2nd term exam (English Text) of the students of Department of Educational and Psychological Sciences. He found a large number of omission errors. For example; Omission of 3rd person singular such as *the teacher encourage his pupils, he need to work, it take more ability.*

The underlined word should be added –s because those sentences indicate 3rd person singular sentences.

Miller (2002) states that syntax has to do with how words are put together to build the phrases, with how phrases are put together to build the clauses or the bigger phrases, and with how clauses are put together to build the sentences. Meanwhile, Error is in term of understanding. So, the error that appears here is not because students experience technical factors such as 'slip of the tongue' but the errors that appear here are errors that illustrate that students have not recognized, and understood the language patterns used (Brown, 2003).

Based on the previous explanation about error, the meaning of error is something done wrong, both in speaking or in writing, because of the incomplete knowledge and it provides the evidence of the system of the language that the learner is using in a particular point in the course or class, although it is not yet the right system. So, it can be concluded that syntactic error is the occurrence of a wrong word, phrase, clause, or sentence structure which make them are not put together.

In the second semester students of English Study Program at University of Trunojoyo Madura are the first times they get assignment of writing essay from lecturer in writing class. The students get the task from lectures is about writing essay of tradition in Madura. They are chosen by researcher in order to the errors made in grammar especially in Syntax, in early semester does not happen again in the next semester. So this will help lecturers and students to know the weaknesses

in which part they often do these errors when writing in English. Then, students and lecturers together find solutions to the problems that occur how to solve them in the best ways. This is an example of syntactical error which is found in essay of second semester student of English Study Program at University of Trunojoyo Madura:

The another dialect is rural dialect

That sentence points out error of addition because it adds the article ‘the’ that actually is not needed. The use of ‘another’ is directly followed by noun without any article before the word, ‘another’. So this sentence can be called as addition error of adding article. Furthermore, this sentence can be revised as:

Another dialect is rural dialect

Having the proper form of the sentence syntactically is important. For that reason, this study is crucial to be conducted. The research is purposed to analyze the errors which are made by the English Study Program students. Since the writer is also an English Study Program student, she wants to find out any kinds of errors which are made by the students and the most possible factor which may affect the occurrence of those errors.

1.2 Statements of Research Problem

Based on the background of the study above, this research aims to answer the question below:

1. What are the forms of syntactical errors found in Essays of second semester students of English Study Program at University of Trunojoyo Madura?
2. What are the sources of errors influence the occurrence of syntactical errors in Essays of second semester students of English Study Program at University of Trunojoyo Madura?

1.3 Objective of the Study

After formulated two questions above, this research has two important objectives; they are:

1. To explain the forms of syntactical errors that are found in Essays of second semester students of English Study Program at University of Trunojoyo Madura
2. To find out the source of errors that influences the occurrence of syntactical errors in Essays of second semester students of English Study Program at University of Trunojoyo Madura.

1.4 Significance of the Study

1) Theoretical significance

By conducting this research, theoretically, the result of this study is expected to enlarge the view on linguistics especially on Syntax. Moreover, the author expects to provide additional knowledge to recognize syntactical errors produced by English study program students. Then, the researcher hopes that this research can give contribution for people who need reference and comprehension about Syntactical errors.

2) Practical significance

Practically, the writer hopes that the readers or students can use the proper structure of the sentences contextually so that they don't repeat the same syntactical errors later. Furthermore, they can make well-formed sentences and can correct ill-formed sentences.

1.5 Scope and Limitation

In order to make this research clear and not too broad, there are some borders that the researcher uses to limit this research. The scope of this research deals with error analysis on syntax. Furthermore, the researcher limits this research on sentences that contain error occurred in Essays of second English Study Program in one class in number of 10 students. The researcher uses theory proposed by Keshavarz (2008) to explain the forms of errors found and to find out the source of errors in the essays.