

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter will cover background of the research, research problem, significance of the research and the scope or limitation of the research.

1.1 Background of the Research

In this era, English as the first foreign language studying as a compulsory subject from senior high school to College. In Indonesia, the English language is not used as a second language or main language. But in other countries, English is used as a second language. In English there are main skills namely writing, reading, listening, and speaking.

Speaking itself is providence skill in the oral mode. It is more complicated than other skills. In this skill, the students do not only pronounce the words but they have to interact with other well. Communication through, speaking is commonly performed in face to face interaction. It occurs as part of verbal exchanges. In speaking, the use of body language is great help for the listeners to understand the intended message. In addition to listening, speaking is mostly taught to the students before reading and writing. By using spoken English, the students will be able to convey their idea. According to Harmer (2001:269) capability to speak fluently by using their knowledge, information and say it by on the spot. It needs the ability to assist in the management of speaking. It occurs in the real condition and has a little time for planning it. Therefore, the fluency is needed to

reach the aim of the conversation.

Language is used for communication between individuals and it also brings them into relationships with their environment grammar is a grammar that makes sentences have various meanings. According to Swan (2005), grammar shows how words are combined, arranged, or changed to show certain types that mean. Grammar is needed in making the right sentence. One of the problems commonly found in students in speaking is that the placement of students' grammar is not appropriate so that making a sentence is out of sync. Based on the book language test, the assessment criteria speaking test has five criteria, namely the pronunciation, vocabulary, structure, comprehension, and fluency

As we know, many students don't care about grammar. They like to speak English the way they are. So, this will make the listener or learner misunderstanding when they are speaking in the class. Then grammar is related to tenses. English has been said to have 12 "tenses". Tense actually relates to times, they are: present, past and future. Murcia as cited in (Taufik, 2013) has named four aspects, they are: simple (sometimes called zero aspect), perfect, progressive, and their combination, perfect progressive present, past and future.

The past tense is used to indicate that an event has already happened, but it can also display a state of being. For instance, something might have been a different way or in a different state in the past than it is today. It can be used to talk about something that we have imagined.

For the previous research the result showed that there is a positive and

significant correlation between grammar mastery and speaking. The r-count is greater than r-table value of $>0.821 > 0.361$. the hypothesis is accepted.

From the previous research there is a similar object that the researcher interest and will analyze students 'grammatical competence in speaking to know or find out how works the students applied grammar to speaking, especially in the use of simple past tense in speaking. This research will be carried out in SMK in Bondowoso especially in the eleventh grade.

1.2 Problem of the Research

Based on the background, the researcher formulated the research question:
How do the students use the grammar in their speaking?

1.3 Object of the research

Based on the problem above, the objective of this study are: To find out how the grammar is use in students' speaking.

1.4 Scope of the Research

In this research, the researcher analyze the students' grammatical competence of the students in their speaking skills at SMK in Bondowoso. The researcher focused on the accuracy on the use of simple past tense in telling story.

1.5 Significance of the Research

1. Theoretical

Theoretically, the results of this research can be a scientific contribution in education science and also as a basis and reference for

further research that is related to students' grammatical competence in speaking skills or related research.

2. Practical

- a. For the English teachers, the result of this research is expected to show how is students' competence of speaking so they can more pay attention to their students and it is also expected to motivate the teachers to be more creative so the students will be more enthusiastic in learning English in the class.
- b. For the researcher, the result of this research can develop her experience related to her knowledge in research on education and English teaching, especially for speaking.
- c. For the students, the result of this research is expected to give them a new experience in English learning, especially in learning speaking so they can be more motivated to develop their abilities.

1.6 The Operational Definition

There are some definitions that must be explained, as follow:

1.6.1 The Definition of Speaking

Speaking is the way people have reasons to communicate, to say or express something. According to Cameron (2001), speaking is the active use of language to express meaning so that people can make sense of them. Harmer (2001) states that speaking happens when two people are communicating with each other.

Based on the explanation above speaking is the way people communication each other to express their idea, emotion and opinion.

1.6.2 The Component of Speaking

According to Syakur (2007: p.4), there are at least five components of speaking skill concerned with comprehension, grammar, vocabulary, pronunciation, and fluency)

1.6.2.1 Comprehension

For oral communication, it certainly requires a subject to respond, to speech as well as to initiate it. It can be infer that comprehension is the ability to receive and interpret a series of communication activities. Comprehension in mastering a second language or a new language is sometimes difficult.

1.6.2.2 Grammar

Coghill and Stacy (2003: p.26) define grammar as follows: "The grammar of a language is the set of rules that govern its structure. Grammar determines how words are arranged to form meaningful units." (The grammar of a language is a set of rules that organize its constituent parts. Grammar determines how words are arranged in the form of meaningful linguistic units)

Based on the explanation, the grammar or structure used in forming sentences, while tenses are part of grammar, which is a grammatical category that emphasizes changing the form of the verb to

indicate the time of an activity or situation.

1.6.2.3 Vocabulary

Vocabulary means the appropriate diction which is used in communication. Without having a sufficient vocabulary, one cannot communicate effectively or express their ideas both oral and written form. Having limited vocabulary is also a barrier that precludes learners from learning a language. Without grammar very little can be conveyed, without vocabulary nothing can be conveyed.

Based on this explanation, the researcher conclude that without mastering grammar sufficiently is English learners will not be able to speak English or write English properly.

1.6.2.4 Pronunciation

Pronunciation is the way for students to produce clearer language when they speak. It deals with the phonological process that refers to the component of a grammar made up of the elements and principles that determine how sounds vary and pattern in a language. There are two features of pronunciation; phonemes and supra segmental features.

From the statement above, the researcher conclude that pronunciation is the knowledge of studying about how the words in a particular language are produced clearly when people speak. In speaking, pronunciation plays a vital role in order to make the process of communication easy to understand.

1.6.2.5 Fluency

Fluency is the ability to read, speak, or write easily, smoothly and expressively. In other words, the speaker can read, understand and respond in a language clearly and concisely while relating meaning and context. Fluency can be defined as the ability to speak fluently and accurately. Fluency in speaking is the aim of many language learners. Signs of fluency include a reasonably fast speed of speaking and only a small number of pauses and “ums” or “ers”. These signs indicate that the speaker does not have spent a lot of time searching for the language items needed to express the message.

From the ideas above, fluency is how flow and efficiency when people express ideas, especially in English. A few grammatical errors would pop up here and there when people were explaining something, but it was delivered in a way that was easy to understand and showed that people were comfortable speaking English.

1.6.3 The Definition of English Grammar

Grammar and vocabulary are components that should be mastered in the teaching- learning process of language. According to Leech et al (1982: 3) define grammar as a reference to the language used in communication with other people.

Based on the explanation above grammar is structure of arrangement of sentence. By using the correct structure, the sentence will be perfect. This structure is not only using in English, but also in Bahasa Indonesia such as SPOK.

1.6.4 Simple Past Tense

The simple past tense tells activities or situation ended at a particular time in the past or the event has been passed. According to Mc. Graw (2003, P.216), simple past tense is used to indicate that something happened at the specific time in the past. In this research, the use of simple past tense will be about how the students tell the events, or activities they did in the specific time in the past.

