

CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION

A. Background

Grammar is one of the elements of language. It is a systematic study and description of a language additionally. In this world, there are many languages and the essential part of the use of the language process is grammar, both in spoken and written. In daily life, everyone must communicate with other people.

Formality and informal language are kind of language for communication and interaction. Formality is all about relationship with other, that is speaking or writing. If you use formal language, it may be because you wish to show respect, politeness, or to put yourself at a distance. Friendliness, feeling and equality of closeness and solidarity with person. It can be shown by informal language. The informal language should not use just to sound fluent or clever in speaking, writing and reading.¹

The function of language is communication tool that everyone uses. Nevertheless, to convey the information would need certainly need to pay attention to the language element. English is a foreign language in Indonesia. To understand the meaning, it would naturally need to be aware of elements of language including vocabulary, grammar, and even pronunciation. So the information that is meant to be delivered is conveyed well. The purpose of language learning including English is to be able to use that language to express ideas and information or for communication.

Language is a means to convey an idea, thought, opinion, and feeling. In Indonesia, English is the first foreign language regarded as important for the aim of

¹Michael McCarthy and Felicity O'Dell, *English Vocabulary In Use* (Jakarta: Erlangga, 2001), p. 14

absorbing and developing science, technology, and culture, as well as to develop a relationship with other nations around the world².

In accordance with the importance of the English role, Indonesian students need to be able to communicate in English if they are to participate effectively in many areas of the national economy, social and political life. Thus, they need plenty of opportunities to practice communication in interesting and useful situations.

In English conversation, students need some elements of language, such as vocabulary, good pronunciation, confidence, and grammar also. As we know, grammar is a pattern or structure of the sentence. Therefore, grammar will help learners to understand the meaning of the sentence. Not only a sentence, but also learners will also get the point of the others means can be a form of utterances or paragraphs. The use of grammar is to identify the grammatical form, which shows the meaning.

Grammar has a position in communicating. People communicate whether directly and indirectly, in writing or speaking, they have to use the correct sentences to convey the meaning well, therefore misunderstanding will not be appearing. Similarly, with grammar, it is supposed to use the correct grammar in building the sentences, in order the meaning of sentences can be accepted and conveyed well to the listener.

Indonesian government has considered that English is compulsory subject that must be learnt by students especially from junior high school. However English becomes a compulsory subject, in the fact there are many students who worried to learn English, including grammar as a part of elements of English. They think that

²Djunaedi, *English 1*, (Jakarta: Balai Pustaka, 1995), p.5

English is a difficult subject. Therefore, there are still many students get unsatisfactory or low score.

Learning English involves the grammar which is taught for the young learners not always be easy. Grammar that is an essential part of the language that cannot be understood easily. Learners especially young learners usually face the difficulties in grammar. When they are learning English, they should know the structure or the pattern of the sentence because it is different with their own language. Students usually get confused when they want to make sentence grammatically.³

Learners have learned the simple tenses in active sentences but the learners still are unable to use them well in speaking and writing. There are several contributing factors. In addition, each student encountered various difficulties in using and mastering the simple tenses.

In this research, the researcher is interested in conducting research in one of school in Luwu. The researcher observed at MTs DDI Buntukamassi Kab. Luwu. The researcher focuses on research students' simple tenses mastery in active sentences and students' difficulties in learning grammar especially using simple tenses at the second grade of MTs DDI Buntukamassi Kab. Luwu.

There are some methods of the study. All the methods are good but teachers choose one of the methods to teach their students following the material of the lesson to convey. However, the teachers must apply the method that makes students interesting in grammar. As we know that some students feel bored and losing their

³AtiqochNovieAmeliani, *Students' Difficulties in Grammar of Seventh Grade Junior High School 1 Magelang* (Proceeding of 1 st Conference of English Language and Literature (CELL), 2019)

interest in following the teaching and learning process about grammar. They are more interested in speaking and memorizing vocabulary than study grammar.

As language learners who have learned English intensively, the students shall be able to understand the simple tenses. From the background described above, the researcher is in investigating “Simple Tenses of Students at The Second Grade of MTs DDI Buntu Kamassi Kab. Luwu”.

B. Research Questions

Based on the background above, the researcher formulates the research questions namely

1. What is the students’ Simple Tenses Mastery at The Second Grade of MTs DDI Buntukamassi Kab.Luwu?
2. What are the difficulties of studentsface in using simple tenses by students’ at second grade of MTs DDI Buntukamassi Kab. Luwu?

C. Objective of Research

Based on the research questions formulated above, the research aims to:

1. To knowthestudents’ Simple Tenses Mastery at The Second Grade of MTs DDI Buntukamassi Kab. Luwu.
2. To find out the difficulties of students face in learning simple tenses by students’ at second grade of MTs DDI Buntukamassi Kab. Luwu.

D. Significance of the Research

It is expected that the result of the research provided useful contribution for:

1. Teacher

Teacher finds and knows students’ simple tenses mastery and students’ difficulties in learning simple tenses. Therefore, the teachers can select a best

method and better strategies to improve their teaching system in learning tenses.

2. Students

The study is also important for the students. Students can increase their knowledge about grammar especially in simple tenses. Moreover, it will motivate the students to learn more about grammar.

3. The Next Researcher

This research will be a reference for the next researcher who wants to concern their study in students' difficulties in using simple tenses. They may get another strategy to encourage students to improve their simple tenses master or they can also develop another study to solve the problems as a contribution to improving our education.

