

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

In this chapter the writer presents about the background, statement of the problem, objective, significance, scope, and operational definition of the research.

### 1.1 Background of the Research

Language and grammar can not be separated each others because without grammar, language does not work well. The people can not do communication effectively without using correct grammar. They will be confused and even misunderstanding about the meaning of the sentences. In learning grammar, we do not only focus on correct pattern, but also how to use words in a sentence appropriately. Most people especially students think that grammar becomes complicated component in English. They get difficult in distinguishing the use of each tenses or do not know the correct form of a sentence. Because of having difficulty in grammar, they are afraid to speak English or write sentences. Sponaugle (2016, para.1) reveals that “the students’ problems in learning grammar are the word order, the use of verbs, plural, and article”.

Based on the problems above, the writer had observed the students’ simple past tense mastery when the writer did teaching internship. The result shows that the tenth grade students of SMK N 1 Kudus in academic year 2018/2019 get difficult in learning simple past tense. They are confused in making simple past tense sentences because they do not understand the form of simple past tense. They also do not know the past verbs well. These situations make them have less score in English. According to standard score of SMK N 1 Kudus, the students must reach 75 as the minimum score but they have not reached it yet. It means that the students need improvement in learning grammar especially in simple past tense. Based on the problems which are faced by the students, a further study about teaching simple past tense is needed.

There are many techniques that can be used to solve these problems but the most unique and appropriate technique is using Mistake Buster. According to Huynh (2003, para.2) “Mistake Buster is a technique that teacher helps students

learn better by creating good opportunities for them to reflect on what they have learned and take a look at it from a different angle”. It means that Mistake Buster is a technique which the students look for and correct the grammatical mistakes that are made by the teacher. Mistake Buster technique is quite simple to do. There are three steps in using Mistake Buster. Step 1, the teacher divides the students into some groups. Then, they are asked to find present verbs on a text and change it to be past verbs. Step 2, the students listen some sentences and have to correct the grammatical mistake. Step 3, the students read a text that is given by the teacher individually. Then, they are asked to correct the grammatical mistakes of the sentences. By using Mistake Buster technique in teaching and learning process, the students are guided to understand the past verb and the form of simple past tense. As many as the grammatical mistakes that are found on the text, the students are expected to have critical thinking in order to make them more understand about the correct one. Therefore, they can learn from that mistakes and correct it by themselves.

This research is related to some current studies that were conducted by Amin (2015); Amtiran *et.al* (2016); Harahap (2017); Hasanah (2017); and Syam (2017). They conclude that after being taught by using Mistake Buster technique, the students’ simple past tense mastery improves significantly. They are more active and interested in teaching and learning process. Based on the current studies, the writer conducted this research under the tittle “Teaching Simple Past Tense by Using Mistake Buster”.

## **1.2 Statement of the Problem**

Based on the background above, the problem of the research can be formulated as follow:

Is there any significant difference between simple past tense mastery of the tenth grade students of SMK N 1 Kudus in academic year 2018/2019 before and after being taught by using Mistake Buster?

### **1.3 Objective of the Research**

Based on the statement of the problem above, the objective of the research is to find out whether there is a significant difference between simple past tense mastery of the tenth grade students of SMK N 1 Kudus in academic year 2018/2019 before and after being taught by using Mistake Buster.

### **1.4 Significance of the Research**

The result of the research is expected to have some significance for the teacher, students and readers. The writer elaborates it as follows:

#### **1. The teachers**

The teachers can be motivated to use creative technique in teaching simple past tense therefore the students are not bored and pressure when they learn it. The teachers can use Mistake Buster technique in teaching simple past tense.

#### **2. The students**

The student can be interested in teaching and learning process therefore they can study effectively. They can improve their simple past tense mastery. They also can improve their English score and understand sentences easier.

#### **3. The readers**

The readers can get knowledge about teaching and learning simple past tense. They can know about Mistake Buster as one of techniques that can be used in teaching and learning simple past tense.

### **1.5 Scope of the Research**

The research focuses on teaching simple past tense by using Mistake Buster of the tenth grade students of SMK N 1 Kudus in academic year 2018/2019. The writer uses Mistake Buster as a technique in teaching simple past tense. The population of the research is the tenth grade students of SMK N 1 Kudus in academic year 2018/2019. They are placed in class X KEU1, X KEU 2, X KEU 3, and X KEU 4. The writer gets X KEU 3 as a sample of the research. The students are expected to be able to understand the past verb and make simple past tense form well. The writer uses narrative text in doing this research.

## 1.6 Operational Definition

The writer defines some terms are used in the title of this research as follows:

1. Teaching is a process of delivering knowledge and building students' characters.
2. Simple past tense is a pattern of sentence that the activity has stopped in specific time in the past.
3. Mistake Buster is a technique that the students look for and correct the grammatical mistake in the sentences that are made by the teacher.
4. The tenth grade students of SMK N 1 Kudus in academic year 2018/2019 are the students who are studying in SMK N 1 Kudus in academic year 2018/2019.

