CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

In this chapter, the researcher states the Background of the Research, Statement of the Problems, Objective of the Research, Significance of the Research, scope of the Research, and Operational Definition.

A. Background of the Research

English is the most popularly spoken language in the world. English is the mother tongue of more than 400 million people worldwide. According to Crystal (2000; 1), English is universal. This remark conveys the idea that many countries utilize English to communicate with other countries worldwide. There are four important skills in English: writing, reading, speaking, and listening. Writing is one of the skills that must be owned and mastered in learning English.

According to Abbas (2006: 125), writing ability is the skill to communicate thoughts, feelings, and conclusions to other people using written language. In writing, we must master grammar. Ostler (1987: 236) states that grammar is the study of language rules that explain the connection between words. The relationship between these words is the right arrangement so that it offers the language meaning or significance to everybody who uses it. According to Kosasih (2006: 26), a descriptive text is an essay that explains a thing to make the reader feel as though he is seeing the thing himself.

SMK N 1 Kudus is the school that teaches English as one of its subjects. This research is chosen by the researcher because when the researcher carried out PLP II activities at SMK N 1 KUDUS, many students said that they have difficulty understanding grammar, so they have lack of grammar knowledge. Besides that, the students have a limited vocabulary. They cannot choose suitable words to make the correct sentences.

Based on the fact the researcher is interested in research on error analysis. Error analysis, according to Richards in Emmaryana (2010; 5), is a process for identifying errors in speech and writing. The study of errors made by learners of second and foreign

languages is also known as error analysis. Error analysis is essential because it allows us to identify students' errors and the phases at which they collect particular syntactic structures. In this research, the researcher focused on grammatical errors. Grammatical error is when words are misassembled into complex forms like phrases, clauses, and sentences. Another way to describe a grammatical error is a morphological or syntactical error.

Research on error analysis of grammar in writing descriptive text has been conducted by previous researchers. (Royani & Sadiah, 2019) found that there was a grammatical error in writing descriptive text those are verb agreement, capitalization, usage, sentence pattern, pronoun, and spelling. And the writer found that the most grammatical errors made by students were verb agreement. Similarly Sinaga & Ramadhani (2021) found that students made errors in omission, addition, misformation, and misordering categories. The highest frequency of item errors was in using verb tense and the lowest frequency of item errors was in using adverb and adjective.

Based on several previous researches, it can be concluded that there are differences between this research with several previous research. The first previous research focused on analyzing the grammatical error in writing descriptive text and the second previous research focused on grammatical error in students writing descriptive text. But this current research will find out an error analysis of grammatical errors in students writing descriptive text and also find out the factors that cause the grammatical error. In this research, the researcher will study further by conducting research with the title: Error Analysis of Grammar in the Students' Writing Descriptive Text at the Tenth Grade MPLB of SMK N 1 Kudus in the Academic Year 2022/2023.

B. Statement of the Problem

Based on the background of the study above, the research problems of this study are formulated as the following:

1. What are the students' grammatical errors in writing descriptive text at the tenth grade MPLB of SMK N 1 Kudus?

2. What are the factors causing the grammatical errors in writing descriptive text at the tenth grade MPLB of SMK N 1 Kudus?

C. Objective of the Research

Based on the statement of the problem above, this particular research aims:

1. To find out the students' grammatical errors in writing descriptive text at the tenth grade MPLB of SMK N 1 Kudus.

2. To find out the causes of the grammatical errors in writing descriptive text at the tenth grade MPLB of SMK N 1 Kudus.

D. Significance of the Research

The significances of the research are:

1. Theoretically

The results of this study are expected to be useful for other research on analyzing grammatical errors in writing descriptive texts by students. So that researchers can find out the problems experienced by students when making descriptive texts. The results of this study will also help to find the causes of grammatical errors made by students when writing descriptive texts.

This study is expected to give benefit the students, English teachers, and future researchers.

2. Practically

a. For English teachers, the results of this study can be used as a reference and consideration for teaching grammar in writing descriptive text.

b. For students, the results of this study can be suggested and students can apply the correct grammar in writing descriptive text.

c. For other researchers, the results of this study can be a reference and useful in increasing knowledge, especially in grammar.

E. Scope of the Research

Based on the research, the researcher focused on analyzing the types and causes of grammatical errors in fifteen descriptive texts of students at the tenth grade MPLB of SMKN 1 Kudus.

F. Operational Definition

Based on the title of the research, the researcher defined in several terms, they are:

1. Error Analysis

   Error analysis is a method for investigating errors that involve gathering samples of errors, recognizing errors, characterizing errors, and categorizing errors according to their significance so that they can be properly assessed. The reasons for errors must be looked at to prevent learners from making the same mistakes again since error analysis is used to identify linguistic errors made by second language learners.

2. Grammatical Error

   Grammatical error is a term used when there is a pattern or use of incorrect grammar in a sentence. Grammatical errors are used to describe examples of incorrect, unconventional, or controversial usage, such as a misplaced modifier or the wrong form of a verb.

3. Writing

   Writing is the act of explaining a language so that the reader may comprehend the author's message. One skill that must be learned to learn English is writing.

4. Descriptive Text

   Descriptive text is text that describes something. Be it people, things, events, or places. The purpose of descriptive text is to describe or describe an object in detail. The detailed explanation aims to make the reader understand the thing being described.

5. The Tenth-Grade Students

The Tenth-grade students are the students who are studying in the first year of SMK N 1 Kudus in the academic year 2022/2023.

6. MPLB

MPLB (Manajemen Perkantoran dan Layanan Bisnis) or Office Management and Business Services is one of the expertise program majors available at SMKN 1 Kudus.