

## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

#### A. Rationale

Language is an important factor in life. Without language we cannot easily communicate with other. The need of communication is very important when we want to tell some information, to express idea, thought and one's feeling to others.

The fact language becomes an important things for people. Language is gift of God for human. He created different language, so that language is a part of His Power. It is written in the Holy Qur'an (Rum: 22) :

وَمِنْ آيَاتِهِ خَلْقُ السَّمَاوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ وَاخْتِلَافُ أَلْسِنَتِكُمْ وَأَلْوَانِكُمْ إِنَّ فِي ذَلِكَ  
لَآيَاتٍ لِّلْعَالَمِينَ.

At the end of the verse Allah says: "... Verily in that are signs for those who know."<sup>1</sup> It can be understood from the verse that Allah created many languages in the world, and one of them is English that forms an international language. As an international language, English is spoken by people and many areas in the world. It is learned by most people in many countries and most of literatures are also written in English. In Indonesia country, English is thought at school, from elementary until university. Teaching English at Indonesia school has aim to produce people mastering English perfectly.

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<sup>1</sup>Abdullah Yusuf Ali, *The Holy Qur'an* (Translation and Commentary), Mary Land USA, 'AMANA' Corp, 1983, p. 1056

English has four skills such as listening, speaking, reading, and writing. All of those skills have their own ways to master them. Alexander (1975:VII) also stated the same statement that : “The student must be trained adequately in all four basic language.<sup>2</sup>

English has language components (grammar, vocabulary, and pronunciation). Grammar especially part of speech, is one of problem faced by student on mastering English, one aspect of grammar is singular and plural, it is a basic knowledge of English that should be mastered. Thus, it is introduced to student since beginning level.

Singular and plural is a basic ability that supporting student skill in English. Elementary School Kebun Bunga 4 Banjarmasin as one of educational institution which is below on the Department Education Affair is one of qualified Elementary School in Banjarmasin.

Based on the writer’s observation, the IIIA, IVA, VA year students of SDN Kebun Bunga 4 in academic 2007/2008 have knowledge about grammar, vocabulary, and pronunciation. But recently, grammar especially singular and plural becomes a problem. They still do not understand and get confusing when they differentiate between singular and plural form.

Based on the problem above and the importance of singular and plural form especially in writing aspect, the writer is very interested in making research in title **“THE MASTERY OF SINGULAR AND PLURAL FORMS OF NOUN BY**

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<sup>2</sup>LG Alexander , *Practice and Progress an Integrated Course for Intermediate Students*, (Yogyakarta: PT Kanisius, 1995) p viii

**THE STUDENTS AT KEBUN BUNGA 4 STATE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
BANJARMASIN 2007/2008”**. To avoid any misinterpretation toward the title, the

writer feels necessary to explain some terms in the title as follow:

1. Mastery means great knowledge about or understanding of particular thing<sup>3</sup>.The particular thing that means in this study is about student’s ability in using singular and plural form. In this thesis, mastery means ability.
- 2 - Singular noun is noun means one only.Generally used article a/an.<sup>4</sup>  
- Plural is a noun more than one; plural of a noun usually made by adding’s to the singular.<sup>5</sup>
3. Thus, the title means The Mastery of Singular and Plural Forms of Noun by the Students at Kebun Bunga 4 State Elementary School Banjarmasin 2007/2008.

**B. Statement of the Problems**

1. How is the ability of IIIA, IVA, VA year students of Elementary School Kebun Bunga 4 Banjarmasin to understand singular and plural.
2. What factor influence the ability of IIIA, IVA, VA years students of Elementary School Kebun Bunga 4 Banjarmasin to understand singular and plural noun ?

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<sup>3</sup> AS Hornasby, *Oxford Advaced Learner’s Dictionary of Current English*, Sixth Edition, (New York: Oxford University Press,2000), p. 788

<sup>4</sup> Marcella Frank, *Modern English a Practical Reference Guide*, (New Jersey: New York University Press, 1972), p. 126

<sup>5</sup>Thomson AJ and AV Martinet, *A Practical English Grammar* Fourth Edition (London: Oxford University Press, 1985), p. 24

### **C. Reason for Selecting the Title**

There are some factors make the writer to conduct this title, they are :

1. English is the most important foreign language in Indonesia that has becomes the main communication device in the field of science and technology.
2. Singular and plural are one of problem faced by Indonesian students.
3. Based on the prior observation which had been done by the writer. The write interested in observing further

### **D. Purposes of Study**

1. To know how is the ability of IIIA, IVA, VA year students of Elementary School Kebun Bunga 4 Banjarmasin to understand singular and plural.
2. To find out some factors which influence it.

### **E. Significance of Study**

1. Enrich the writer's knowledge and experience in specific research especially about English grammar.
2. Enlarge the information for anyone who wants to do a research about such problem which is closely related to the object of this research.

### **F. Organization of Content**

This paper is divided into five chapters as following:

Chapter I : Introduction.

Contains about rationale, statement of the problem, reasons for selecting the title, purpose of research, significant of research, and organization of content.

Chapter II : Theoretical Review.

Contains about some definition of singular and plural, types of statement in singular and plural, the functions of singular and plural, the advantages of mastering part of speech (singular and plural), and the influential factors of student's ability in using singular and plural on writing skill.

Chapter III: Methodology of Research.

Contain about method of research, which consist of subject and object of research, data, sources of data, and techniques of data collecting, basic frame work of the research, design of measurement, techniques of data processing and analysis research procedure.

Chapter IV: Contains research result that is achieved in this study. It consists of general description of the research location, data presentation, and data analysis.

Chapter V : Consists of the conclusion and suggestions.