

different people, and many different nations in the world, of course many different languages that they use to communicate.

The variety of languages motivates people to learn language. Nowadays, to communicate with other countries is a must. Thus, learning foreign language is not only a kind of obedience to Allah God The Almighty, but also a necessity.

There are so many languages in the world, but English is the most important one. First, English is an international and universal language, and used in almost all over the world. Second, people use it as a communication tool. Moreover, Speaking English well, is the easiest way to communicate with other countries. Third, like other state in the world, Indonesia has programmed English as one of compulsory subjects from elementary school until university, not only formally but also no formally like in course institutions.

English is one of languages that has rules and defined patterns whereas English was said as an instrument to express ideas, opinions and feelings similar with native speakers and also an instrument in absorption and development of science, technology and culture.²

Furthermore in teaching-learning process, English is intended to develop four English skills. The four language skills are listening, speaking, reading and writing

²Departemen Pendidikan dan Kebudayaan, *Petunjuk Teknis Mata Pelajaran Bahasa Inggris*, (Jakarta: Direktorat Pendidikan Umum, 1996), p. 2

appropriate to theme which are chosen based on interest, vocabulary and suitable grammar.³

English as subject at school requires at students to be able to communicate in oral and written using appropriate language from fluently and accurately.⁴ Therefore, students are taught to master four skills. Students' competency on the four skills above can be gained based on their ability in some subject matters such as vocabulary, grammar, pronunciation and spelling. The matters help students decode and encode English fluently and accurately as the intended goal.

Related to development of those four English skills, usage of good and accurate grammar is one of important factors to communicate and understand literature in English, it also one important subject matter should be mastered. It helps students' construct a grammatically correct utterance and writing. Grammatical sentence is easily understood by interlocutors rather than ungrammatical one. Moreover in written language, the writing has to be constructed in grammatically accepted form.

A part of grammar will be discussed in this thesis is indirect (reported speech) *or kalimat tak langsung* in Indonesian. It is one of important parts that belong to components of English grammar, and students should master it, thus reported speech is one of important aspects in teaching-learning English.

³*Ibid.*

⁴ Departemen Pendidikan Nasional, *Pengembangan Silabus dan Sistem Penilaian Mata Pelajaran Bahasa Inggris*, (Jakarta: Departemen Pendidikan Nasional, 2004), p. 5

The reported speech is usually found in reading materials and many kinds of writing such as newspapers articles, stories and novels, etc. it is usually in used in conversations in many books, and also in quotations etc.

In reality, many students in certain school still have difficulties in making or forming sentences, even more in making reported speech. This problem is usually caused by some factors, among others: the difficulty of the teacher to give detail explanation about teaching materials, then less understand about literatures, and less of students' ability can influence this problem, beside that environment also related to this problem.

Based on the writer's observation in English subject, especially the grammar lesson, the writer had seen that the ability of some students at Islamic Senior High School 4 Martapura in making reported speech is still low. The students are still difficult to make the sentence, even more to change either direct speech into reported speech or reported speech into direct speech properly.

Based on the problems above, the writer is interested to do research deeply. So, to know further information about that, the writer intends to conduct a research on **“The Mastery in Making Reported Speech of the Twelfth Grade Students at Islamic Senior High School 4 Martapura Academic Year 2007/2008.”**

B. Clarification of the Title

To avoid any misinterpretation toward the title, the writer feels necessary to explain some terms in the title as follows:

1. Mastery means complete knowledge, great skill of something.⁵ Something that is meant in this research is about the students' mastery in making reported speech. In this thesis, mastery means ability.
2. Reported speech means (grammar) reporting of what somebody has said, without using his or her actual words.⁶
3. Students mean students who still study at the twelfth grade students at Islamic Senior High School 4 Martapura academic year 2007/2008.

Based on the meaning above, this research is intended to know the mastery in making reported speech of the twelfth grade students at Islamic Senior High School 4 Martapura academic year 2007/2008 based on the material that has been taught to the students, those are Simple Present Tense, Present Continuous Tense, Present Perfect Tense, Simple Future Tense, and Simple Past Tense.

C. Reasons for Choosing the Title

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

1. Realizing that grammar is essential aspect in teaching-learning English, which does not learn about how to use good sentence but also how to express idea in a good written form.

⁵A. S. Hornby, *Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary of Current English*, (New York: Oxford University Press, 1995), Fifth Edition, p. 721

⁶Martin H. Manser, *Oxford Learner's Pocket Dictionary*, (New York: Oxford University Press, 1995), New Edition, p. 213

2. The ability in grammar, especially in reported speech is the one important requirement to understand English text properly. It is usually used in conversation in books, also in quotations, etc.
3. Reported speech is one of important parts that belong to component of grammar and students should master it.
4. Usually, most Indonesian students have difficulties in learning grammar of English, because the grammar of English has differences from their native language (Indonesian).

D. Formulation of the Problem

How is the degree of the mastery in making reported speech of twelfth grade students at Islamic Senior High School 4 Martapura academic year 2007/2008?

E. Objective of the Research

To know the degree of the mastery in making reported speech of twelfth grade students at Islamic Senior High School 4 Martapura academic year 2007/2008.

F. Significance of the Research

The result of this research is expected to give contribution as follows:

1. Enrich the writer's knowledge and experience on related field particularly on aspect grammar, especially about reported speech.

2. Giving information and knowledge for the English teachers who want to increase and develop their students' quality in learning English.
3. Valuable information for the students to increase their mastery in making reported speech.
4. Valuable information for the next who are interested in doing a research about the same aspect more deeply.

G. Organization of the Contents

This study is divided into five chapters as follows:

Chapter I: Contains of introduction which consist of rationale, clarification of the title, reasons for choosing the title, formulation of the problem, objective of the research, significance of the research, and organization of the contents.

Chapter II: Contains theoretical review of related literature, which consist the definition of direct and indirect (reported) speech, the patterns of reported speech, the types of reported speech and the use of reported speech.

Chapter III: Contains method of research used in this research which consist of subject and object, data, sources of data, techniques of data collecting, design of measurement, technique of data processing and data analysis and then research procedures.

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

Chapter V: Contains closure, which consists of conclusion and suggestions.