

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of Study

Writing is the communication of ideas by means of conventional symbols that are traced, incised, drawn or otherwise formed on the surface of some material such as stone, metal, bamboo, papyrus, parchment, or paper. Although, some animals communicate with one another by means of writing (*The Encyclopedia Americana, 1996*), mostly human beings do. Allah states in his Holy Qur'an about writing:

أَقْرَأْ بِاسْمِ رَبِّكَ الَّذِي خَلَقَ ﴿١﴾ خَلَقَ الْإِنْسَانَ مِنْ عَلَقٍ ﴿٢﴾ أَلَمْ يَكُنْ الْأَكْرَمُ

الَّذِي عَلَّمَ بِالْقَلَمِ ﴿٤﴾ عَلَّمَ الْإِنْسَانَ مَا لَمْ يَعْلَمْ ﴿٥﴾

The word “qalam” in the fourth of Al-Alaq’s verse has translated by *lauhul mahfudz*, a book that written all about this universe inside. Moreover, Allah has had the example to command His angels to write and book all of human’s work. So that, as human and His creation, writing was the important thing to do, rewrite what we have read and think because writing was the one of God’s command.

In this modern era, technology is not something new. The writing world also grows up so much. It is not only about write in the paper then publish it into the book, but

now, public internet places such as blog, watt pad, tumblr, and others. They write anything, started from article, news, and fiction. Knott (1985) stated in *Writing after Fifty* “How to find ---enjoy—and make money from a new career as a new writer after you retire... thousands of people have started writing career after they retired. Some become famous, some make money, and some simply enjoyed them self enormously”.

Fiction was the one of popular kind of writing that appeared in the internet. The fiction writers usually write based on their experiences or what they think, watch, and read. Then, idea mostly appeared when they read a book from best seller writer or watch the movie. For example, what would happen if Bella Swan in the “Twilight” did not meet Edward Cullen and married by Jacob Black? How could it be if Katniss Everdeen never changed her sister to join the competition in “The Hunger Games”? The scenarios “what if” mostly appear in people’s mind when they read a book or watch a movie. Some readers are dissatisfied with just watching or reading it and they are trying to imagine the main ideas from the story and make their own, but still keep the elements of the story and that phenomenon called as “fan fiction”.

Some people probably are not familiar with the term of “fan fiction”. Fan fiction is a part of the popular internet culture. Although, the existence of this term rarely appears in the public, but people have to appreciate it because it is one of the fans creativities. Fan fiction is a fiction story that writes by the fans and made the plot, story, and rule with new storylines, characters, alternative endings, beginning, and substitute sets of moral, ideals or sexual politics.

Usually, it uses stories, characters, and the settings from the original book or movie. But, fan fiction is not only about fiction. Then, some freelance writers were made

the fiction using the real person in the reality. For the example, if they are a big fan of Super Junior (a boy band from South Korean) they will put the members of the group as the main cast of the story. They can become his girlfriend, friend, wife, mother, or anything what they want.

For the people who do not speak English in the daily life, using a language especially English is not as simply as we thought because there is a set of rules that must be followed, which is called grammar. Actually grammar is used to mean the structure of a language. It is an essential part of the use of language process, both in spoken and written language. Based on Digital Library of Petra University, the grammar of a language is a description of the ways in which the language uses patterns of structure to convey the meaning. It would be impossible to learn language effectively without knowing the grammar, because grammar helps learner to identify grammatical forms, which serve to enhance and sharpen the expression of meaning.

Subject verb agreement is one aspect of grammar. Subject verb agreement means in part that there is agreement between the subject and the verb of a sentence. The topic about subject verb agreement is chosen because of the importance of someone who want to understand and use English very well in written or orally.

Now, mostly fan fiction written by fans that do not use English in their daily life. It seems from Asian fan Fiction Blog which the writers come from around Asia e.g. Indonesia, Cambodia, and Myanmar which use English as Foreign Language. Then, Malaysia and Singapore that use English as Second Language and they write in English while it is not their first language. Asian fan fiction blog was a one the biggest blog site

with so many Asian writers inside. They usually write about their bias and pair it with another idol or original character.

Then, one of the major common errors in written English fan fictions by non-native writers are making subjects and verb agree. Although this rule seems easy, many writers seem to have difficulty applying it. This could be due to their lack of knowledge of the rule itself or interference from the writer's mother tongue. In addition, the differences of error when using subject verb agreement between the writers also will conduct in this research.

There are some writer mistakes in using subject verb agreement. The mistakes usually happened when they were using "s" in third person singular. The examples are in the following details taken from fan fiction by Ms_Joo (Cambodia) with the title A Guy Next Door"

"She loves Jonghyun" just became "She Love Jonghyun"

"Jonghyun always tease her"

"He realize himself he fall in love with Eunjung"

In the previous research, entitle "An error analysis on subject verb agreement of written English by 11th grade students of MAN 3 Tulung Agung" which is written by M. Yusuf As'ari at 2013, the researcher found similarity and difference with the topic that will be researched. The similarity between the previous study and the research that will be conducted is both researchers analyzing about error on subject verb agreement. Meanwhile, the difference comes from the subject of the research. The research will analyze five fan fictions written by five different non-native speakers find the errors also the errors differences of subject verb agreement types between second and foreign

language writer, while the previous research analyze about subject verb agreement errors in written English by 11th grade and it aims to English language teaching.

Therefore, according to phenomenon and explanation which mentioned above, it is very interesting to conduct the research with the tittle “The Error Analysis of Subject Verb Agreement in Fan Fiction Written by Five Non-native Speakers (Indonesia, Cambodia, Myanmar, Malaysia, Singapore)”.

B. Statement of Problems

Based on the background above, the writer is formulated the problems

1. What are the writing errors commonly made by five non-native speakers in using subject verb agreement on writing fan fiction?
2. What are the differences of writing errors between second language (Malaysia and Singapore) writers and foreign language (Indonesia, Myanmar, Cambodia) writers in using subject verb agreement on writing fan fiction?

C. Objective of Study

Based on the statement of problems above, the writer hopes to find out:

1. The grammatical errors especially subject verb agreement which is made by five fan fiction writers.
2. The differences of writing errors between Second Language (Malaysia and Singapore) writers and foreign language (Indonesia, Myanmar, Cambodia) writers in using subject verb agreement on writing fan fiction.

D. Significance of research

The Significances of study are:

1. This research not only fulfill requirement in getting bachelor degree of education in English Department but also helps the writer to know more about subject verb agreement and how to use it in daily life.
2. To help non-native fan fiction writers, by giving them an important contribution in English writing process which is part of grammar especially subject verb agreement they should pay attention to.
3. For readers, this research gives more knowledge about many rules of subject verb agreement.
4. The result of this study will contribute to the local study of English literature about subject verb agreement.
5. Adding the literary source of IAIN Antasari library.

E. Definition of Key Terms

1. Error Analysis: is a branch of applied linguistics. It is concerned with the compilation, study, and analysis of errors made by second language learners and aims at investigating aspects of second language acquisition.
2. Subject verb agreement: the correspondence of a verb with its subject in person and number. The subject and verb match.
3. Writing: a system of human communication by means of visuals symbols or sign

4. Fan Fiction: type of literature, usually written on the internet, by people who admire a particular novel, film/movie, etc., with characters taken from these stories.
5. Non-native speaker: people who has not written English from time they first learnt to write.

F. Research Design

The type of this research is descriptive qualitative because the data are the forms of words rather than numbers. The researcher describes the errors and the rules of subject verb agreement which found in fan fiction that written by 5 non-native speaker. According to Miles (1985) states that qualitative data tends to be in the form of words than series of number. Qualitative research concerned with structure and patterns, and how something is.

G. Subject and Object

a. Subject

The subject of this research is “5 fan fictions that written by 5 non-native speakers” taken from internet sources/Asian Fan Fiction and Strawberry Room blogs.

b. Object

The Object of this research is grammatical errors and the differences of writing errors between foreign languages and second language writers on using

subject verb agreement that found in the most update fan fictions from June 2016 in Asian Fan Fiction and Strawberry Room with the following details.

1. “Princess of Ticonia” user name by Kilumur (Myanmar)
2. “What’s yours, is yours” user name by Ismilenotfrown (Singapore)
3. “Reunion” user name by Emma1107 (Malaysia)
4. A Guy next door” user name by Ms_Joo (Cambodia)

Then, one fan fiction taken from strawberry room blog

5. Aqua-serious by Shela Hardjono (Indonesia)

H. Technique of Data Collection

The data for this research are taken with some procedures the following are:

- 1) Read the fan fictions.
- 2) Listing the data about errors and the differences of writing errors on using subject verb agreement between foreign and second language writers in 4 fan fictions from Asian Fan Fiction and 1 fan fiction taken from Strawberry room blog.
- 3) After that, re-checking the list of the data and revise some part in the fan fiction until finally find all and then to analysis them.
- 4) Then, taking evidence/information related to the questions from the selected of list the data. In answering to questions, the researcher added some opinion to support the data and the data supporting by the theory, which have been received.
- 5) The last, the questions of problem statement can to answer.

I. Data processing and data analysis

a. Data processing

For processing the data, the researcher used some steps as follow:

1. Collecting

Collect the data that consider with grammatical error of subject verb agreement and the differences of writing errors between foreign language and second language writers that found in the fan fictions.

2. Identifying

Identify the errors and the differences of writing errors on using subject verb agreement between foreign language and second language writers in 5 fan fictions.

3. Confirming

Confirm the data that have been identifying of grammatical error and the differences of writing errors on using subject verb agreement between foreign language and second language writers in 5 fan fictions.

4. Classifying

The researcher to classify all the data of grammatical error and the differences of writing errors on using subject verb agreement between foreign language and second language writers in 5 fan fictions.

5. Analyzing

Analyze all of the data about grammatical error and the differences of writing errors on using subject verb agreement between foreign language and second language writers in 5 fan fictions.

J. Data analysis

After the data are collected, the writer classified them based on the problem statement and then analysis them descriptively. So, that all data can be used to answer the probing systematically.