

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Rationale

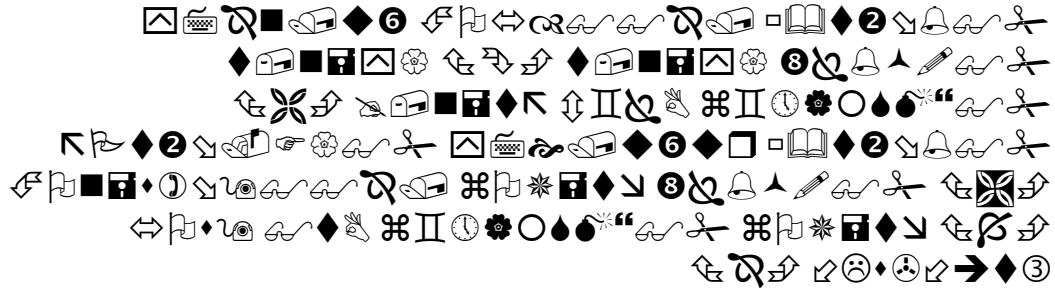
Language is a way to communicate ideas comprehensibly from one person to another that can be used to convey thoughts, ideas, or instructions.¹ We can see that language can help to shape thinking and that thinking can also help to shape the language.²

The people in the world use the different languages for communication in different situation according to their culture and society. Basically, the different languages use different devices for showing the relationship of one word to another. They use the language as a system of communication by using sounds, symbol, or words in expressing meaning, idea, thought or feeling.³ These differences of languages show that Allah the Almighty, as the Creator and the Master of this world and all everything for the happiness of human beings orders people to study His verse in this world, as Allah the Almighty said in the holly Qur'an, sura Al-Alaq verse 1-5:

¹ <http://www.Signgenius.com/sign-language/definition-of-language.shtml>.

² Jeremy Harmer, *The Practice Of English Language Teaching*, (San Francisco: San Francisco State University, Third Edition), p.72

³ http://www.Unixl.com/dir/education/languages/language_definition/.



This verse explained about obligatory for learning and teaching. As we know to get the knowledge, we have to communicate each other, and to communicate we need a language. So, Language is not only used for interaction with another but also used to communicate, to share the information and develop sciences and technology.

Every language in the world is rich enough and sufficiently complete for its speakers to carry out their daily activities. It has code as characteristics in putting of sounds together in order to talk about situations or events in the present, past or future.⁴

Besides that, the language can make an interaction among the people in the entire world. And also people can know each other or understand about something by using languages. Language is a gift of God for human being according to the Holly Qur'an sura Ar-Ruum verse 22 as follows:

⁴ Mary Finocchiaro, *English As A Second Language: From Theory to Practice*, (New York: Regents Publishing Company, Inc, 1974), p.2



The verse above explains that God created many languages in this world. One of the important languages that is used and learned by most people in this world is English, because English is an international language. In Indonesia, English is a foreign language and it studied by the students at school as a second language. In mastering a foreign language is not easy, we have to learn more and study hard.

Basically, learning a foreign language has four skills. They are listening, speaking, reading and writing. Speaking and writing skills are the encoding processes whereby we communicate our ideas, thoughts or feelings through one or the other form of language; listening and reading are the decoding processes by which we “understand” either a spoken or a written message.⁵

In mastering that four elements should be completed by two important elements like vocabulary and grammar. Someone can not speak English if he does not have vocabularies or he does not know the grammar or structures of sentences. All of those important elements in mastering English skill can not be divided. If we want to master the four skills like listening, speaking, reading and writing, so we have to master grammar and have many vocabularies.

⁵ David P. Haris, *Testing English As A Second Language*, (New York: McGraw-Hill Book Company, 1969), p.9

As an English student, students have to master all of skills. If they want to master it, they have to study hard about it, especially the structures or grammar. Grammar is one of the important elements of learning English that can help the students in making the correct sentences. It describes parts of speech, grammatical structures, and also how we combine, organize, change and form the words or parts of words to make meaning.⁶ Therefore, the students have to know and understand more about grammar.

A part of the grammar will be discussed in this thesis is about noun phrase. In fact, most of students in certain school still have some difficulties in making or forming a good noun phrase. Noun phrase also has the rules in making it. Learners have to know the rules before they make it correctly. If they make mistakes in making it, so the structure of noun phrase is wrong and of course the meaning of that sentence is changed.

In grammar, noun phrase is a phrase whose function in a sentence is equivalent to that of a noun. It is also a phrase whose head noun or pronoun, optionally accompanied by a set of modifier.⁷ The head of word usually use at the last sentence of noun phrase. For example:

-	<u>A</u>	<u>beautiful</u>	<u>girl</u>
	Determiner	Adjective	Noun (Head)

⁶ Mary Spratt, Alan.P. and Melanie William, *The Teaching Knowledge Test Course*, (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2005), p.5

⁷ http://www.English_noun_and_noun_phrases.html.

- A clever student
 Determiner Adjective Noun (Head)

- A new car
 Determiner Adjective Noun (Head)

The examples above can be seen that there is article “a” as determiner at the first in each sentence. Noun or Head word in each sentence is Girl, Student and Car. Then the words beautiful, clever and new are modifiers of head word, they are held before the head of word. Head of word is a content word that can be qualified by a modifier. There are many modifiers in noun phrase formula, they are descriptive enumerator like “bad, pretty, beautiful, clever, good, handsome, nice, etc”, Epithed which consists of “size, age, shape, color, temperature etc”. In additional, origin, material and purpose can also used in making noun phrase. In the example above, we can know that the words of adjective are modifier, because the function of adjective describes nouns. If we want to use with a noun, so we use adjective in front of nouns.⁸

There are determiners or ordinal before the modifiers. We have to put determiner or ordinal at the first sentence before the modifiers. Determiner consists of

⁸ Betty Schramper Azar, *Basic English Grammar*, (New Jersey: Prentice Hall regents, 1996), p.133

articles (a, an, the), possessive (my, your, their, our, etc), demonstrative (this, that, those, these), and quantitative (some, many, a lot of, view, etc). While the ordinal consists of numerals like one, two, three, four, first, second, third, etc) and adjective which has comparative form, superlative form and very.⁹

The material of this research subject had been taught by the writer when the writer practiced her English teaching in PPL 2 at the first time in that class. As far as the writer knows, the students of eleventh grade students at that school need the guidance and teaching intensively and effectively, because their English skill is still less enough. They still get difficulties in master English skill especially grammar subject. They need too much time in finishing little assignment from their teacher. Most of them do not understand the English subject well. So, there is just a little student who can understand English subject well.

Therefore, the writer had been interested to get this subject and observed their ability more deeply. It caused in order the students can study hard and learn more about English skill especially grammar subject, they can develop their ability and they also can increase their knowledge in English grammar especially about noun phrase.

Based on that writer's observation in English subject, the writer can know and had seen that the students in this school get difficulties in master English skill

⁹ Tim Taruna, *Bahasa Inggris kelas XI SMU*, (Jakarta: Taruna, 2000),p.14

especially grammar lesson. So, the writer wants to know the degree of the mastery or ability in grammar lesson especially in making noun phrase of eleventh grade students at Islamic Senior High School SMIP 1946 Banjarmasin.

Based on that fact above, the writer is interested in observing and conducting a research entitled:

“ THE STUDENTS’ ABILITY IN MAKING NOUN PHRASE OF ELEVENTH GRADE STUDENTS AT ISLAMIC SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL SMIP 1946 BANJARMASIN ACADEMIC YEAR 2008/2009 ”.

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

1. Ability is skill or power¹⁰

This research intended to know capacity or power of eleventh grade students at Islamic Senior High School SMIP 1946 Banjarmasin in making noun phrase.

2. A phrase is a short group of words or group of words without a verb that form part of a sentence.¹¹

3. Noun phrase is a group of words without verb that form a part of sentence. It is a combination of adjective and noun.¹² It consists of head of word and modifiers. The main or head word in a noun phrase is either a noun, a pronoun, or an adjective used as a noun.¹³

¹⁰ Martin H. Manser, *Oxford Learner's Pocket Dictionary*, (New York: Oxford University Press, 1995) New Edition, p.1

¹¹ *Ibid*, p.309

Therefore, this research is intended to know and measure the students' ability especially in making noun phrase of eleventh grade students at Islamic Senior High School SMIP 1946 Banjarmasin academic year 2008/2009.

B. Formulation of the Problem

How is the students' ability in making noun phrase of eleventh grade students at Islamic Senior High School SMIP 1946 Banjarmasin academic year 2008/2009?

C. Reasons for Choosing the Title

1. English is an international language that has become the tool of communication in the entire world.
2. Grammar is essential part in learning English. One of the important grammar's elements is about noun phrase.
3. Although noun phrase has ever been taught, but there are some difficulties and not all of students can make it well.
4. As far as the writer knows, the students' ability in making noun phrase of eleventh grade students at Islamic Senior High School SMIP 1946 Banjarmasin academic year 2008/2009 as the object in this research has never been observed before.

¹² Mukarto, Sujatmiko, Josephine, and Widya Kiswara, *English On Sky 1*, (Jakarta: Erlangga, 2006), p.141

¹³ Longman, *Dictionary Of Grammar And Usage*, p.181

D. Purpose of the Research

The purpose of this research is to know the students' ability in making noun phrase of eleventh grade students at Islamic Senior High School SMIP 1946 Banjarmasin academic year 2008/2009.

E. Significances of the Research

The result of this research is hoped can be:

1. As an input for English teachers at Islamic Senior High School SMIP 1946 Banjarmasin in developing English learning process well.
2. As an information for students to increase their ability in making noun phrase.
3. Add the writer's knowledge about noun phrase and everyone who read this thesis.

F. Organization of the Content

The first chapter contains introduction, which consist of rationale, formulation of the problem, reasons for choosing the title, purpose of the research, significances of the research, and organization of the content.

The second chapter contains theoretical review, which consist of definition of ability, definition of noun phrase and the ways in making noun phrase.

The third chapter contains method of research, which consists of subject and object of the research, data, sources of the data and techniques of data collecting, design of measurement, techniques of data processing and data analysis, and then research procedure.

The fourth chapter contains report of research result, which consists of general description of the research location, data presentation, and data analysis.

The fifth chapter contains closure, which consists of conclusion and suggestions.