

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### A. Rationale

Education is one of the most important aspect in our lives. Education is a effort which is done purposely by human through the activities of guidance, instruction, and training for better future. It is one of the aspect to make our country successful. Therefore, we must give a specific attention to education such as giving the chance or the same right for every people to get education.

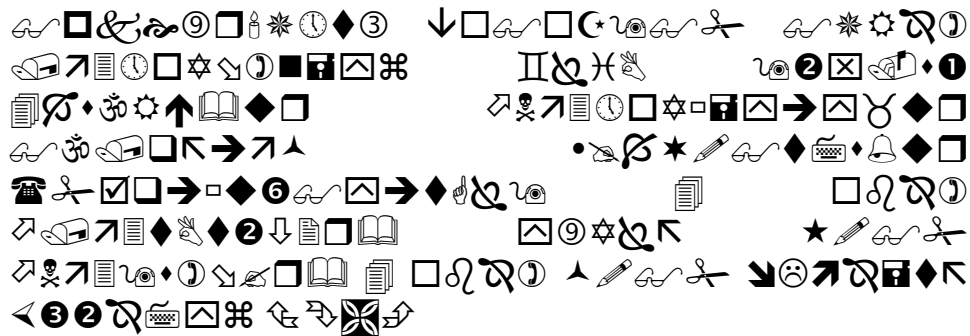
It is not easy to get a good education without hard work and guidance from all parties, whether from teachers, parents, and more over from his/her self. As we know in education occurs a teaching learning process where there is an activity to transfer or give knowledge, skill, and experience to students. In educational world, we learn many things, one of them is language.

Language is a very important thing in our life. By using language, we can communicate with each others. The function of language is not only as a lesson to study, but also it is used to express the idea, mind, opinion and feeling, either orally or written to others. Murcia and Lois in their book *Teaching English as a Second or Foreign Language*, stated: “The essence of language in human activity, activity on the part of one individual to make himself understood by another, and activity on the part of the other to understand what was on the main of the first”<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup>Marianne Celce-Murcia and Lois Meintosh, *Teaching English as A Second Language*, (Los Angles: Newbury Hruse Publishers, Inc. 1959), p. 183

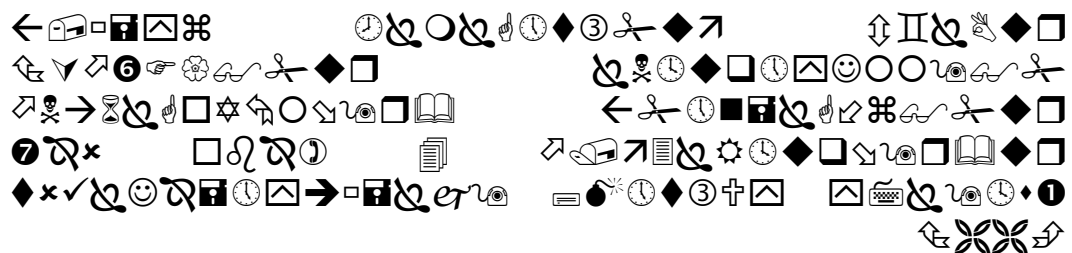
A language can make a harmony among individuals, societies, ethnics, and nations. Beside that through language people can know each other, understand more about something around them. Language is a gift of god for human being adjusts to one of the holly Koran as follows:



Al Hujurat: 13

So, as it is said in the holly Koran, Allah explain that it is important for human being to know and interact with other people in the their life.

There are many languages in the world that we use to communicate. It is suitable with the verse of the Holy *Qur'an, Ar-Ruum: 22* below that there are many different languages in the world:



One of them is English. It is one of the most important languages that is spoken and learned by most people all around the world. Based on the rate of sciences and technology development at this age, English has important rules

especially to discover the sciences, because there are many books written in English. So, to transfer those sciences people have to master English well.

In Indonesia, English is a second language. It has very essential position in communication among people. It has been studied and taught from junior high school until university. The aim of teaching English at Indonesian school is to produce people mastering English perfectly.

Basically, learning a foreign language has four skills namely listening, speaking, reading and writing and two elements, they are vocabulary and grammar. It is not easy matter to master the skills, learning language also has to master elements of the language, one of them is grammar.

Grammatical patterns are very important to be mastered, it is because when they are using four skills, the sentences those are the decoded and incoded are arranged according to grammatical patterns that language.

According to Fuad Mas'ud in his book *Essentials of English Grammar*, the parts of speech are classified in eight categories. They are<sup>2</sup>:

1. Nouns
2. Pronouns
3. Adjectives
4. Verbs
5. Adverbs
6. Prepositions
7. Conjunctions
8. Interjections.

It means that classification of English word based on the function, meaning, and its utilizing in sentence. Such as prepositions (kata depan) mean that

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<sup>2</sup> Fuad Mas'ud, *Essentials of English Grammar*, (Yogyakarta: BPFE, 1992), Second Edition, P .61

relate noun or pronoun to another word that usually to show e.g. place, position or time.

Preposition is a part of English structures which is something difficult to learn. It is because there are a lot of the numbers of prepositions in English and their meanings usually depend on the preceding verbs. "Preposition range in meaning from such defines semantic notions as time, place, etc to such purely structural meanings as those shaped by the subject verb complement relationship" (Marcella Frank, 1972:163)<sup>3</sup>

One of the content of English grammar that have been studied is preposition. Recently preposition becomes a problem which is faced by the student on mastering English. "Preposition is a word on group of words (e.g. in, from, to, out of, on, behalf on) used before a noun or pronoun to show e.g. place, position, time or method ".

In the Islamic Junior high school Kelayan Pekauman Banjarmasin, the preposition are put in the syllabus to be taught in second grade. Eventhough the language learners have been taught about the use of the preposition they still it consider it is a problem and based on the students exercises many mistakes are made by the students in dealing with preposition. They often get confused and make error when using preposition in sentence. The error usually is the wrong choice of world (especially on the prepositions).

Therefore the writer is interested to express more deeply and conducting a research entitled: THE STUDENTS' ABILITY IN USING PREPOSITION OF

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<sup>3</sup>Marcella Frank, Modern English A Practical Reference Guide, (New Jersey: Prentice Hall, 1972), P.163

## THE SECOND GRADE AT MTsN KELAYAN LOCATED PEKAUMAN BANJARMASIN ACADEMIC YEAR 2007 / 2008.

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

1. Ability is skill or power.<sup>4</sup> The writers means, here is the students' ability of the second grade at MTsN Kelayan located Pekauman in using prepositions (*in, on and at*)
2. Using which is aimed in this research in putting suitable English preposition (*in, at, on*) in English sentence or relative to the rules of English grammar.
3. Preposition is a word or group of words used before noun or pronoun to show e.g. place, position, time or method. But, preposition which discussed in this research are: *at, in, on* as the preposition of time and place.

Thus the title in this research mentioned above refers to an activity to the research of the ability in using prepositions (*in, at and on*).

### **B. Formulation of Problems**

The problem which is represented in this research are:

1. How is the Students' ability in using preposition of the second grade at MTsN Kelayan located Pekauman Banjarmasin?

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<sup>4</sup>As Hornby, Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary, ( New York : Prentice Hall, 1988 ),

2. What kinds problem are faced by students in using preposition of the second grade students at MTsN Kelayan located Pekauman Banjarmasin?

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

Some reasons that be a background of the writer to conduct the title are:

1. English is one of important languages to know Science, technology, and cultural art in written or spoken from.
2. Preposition is a part of English structure which is somewhat difficult to learn.
3. The material of prepositon put in the syllabus to be taught in the second grade.
4. The research has never done yet at MTsN Kelayan Pekauman Banjarmasin.

### **D. Purpose of Research**

Based on the problem about, the writer has two purposes of this study, they are:

1. To know the students' ability in using preposition of the second grade at MTsN Kelayan located Pekauman Banjarmasin.

2. To find out the kinds problem are faced by students in using preposition of the second grade students at MTsN Kelayan located Pekauman Banjarmasin.

#### **E. Significance of Research**

1. As an input for the English teacher at MTsN Kelayan located Pekauman to develop teaching- learning process.
2. As an input for students to improve their ability in mastering English especially in using preposition
3. As an input for writer to add the writer's knowledge and experience in scientific research especially about preposition.

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

This research is divided into five chapters as follows:

The first chapter contain introduction which consists of rationale, formulation of problems, reason for adopting the title, purpose of research, significance of study.

The second chapter contains theoretical review, which consists of definition and kinds of preposition, the functions of preposition, the technique in teaching preposition and the kinds problems are faced by students in using preposition.

The third chapter contains method of research; consist of subject and object of the research, data, source of data and technique of data collections, basic frame work of the research, design of measurement.

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

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

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