A. Rationale

Language is one of important communication instruments for human, because by using language; we can easily communicate with each other, since language is used to deliver message, express ideas, thought, and one’s feeling to other. Mary Fhinocchiaro, states that:

Language is uniquely human activity. It is often characterized as species specific, i.e. it is and instruments processed only by man. All normal people in the world can speak; no group of people without a spoken language has ever been discovered. Language is universal. All normal human being in community understand and speak well enough to carry out every activity of human life.\(^1\)

Human always interact to the others to deliver message, thought and idea orally and written. Learning a language is a study how to know its target language communication.

Of course we can not imagine, if we did not use language as communication instrument and we know that Allah the almighty created different language for human, as Allah said in Ar-Rum: 22, there is:

\(^1\) Mary Fhinocchiaro, *English as A Second Language from Theory to Practice*, (NY Regent publishing company, Ine 1974). P 2
There are very many languages in the word, one of them is English, and it is one of international languages that are spoken by many people all around the world and very many areas of everyday life. It is also learned by most people in many countries either as the mother, or as foreign language.

In this globalization era, language socially influences peoples’ life, including English language. It is because English is a medium to make relation in business, science, and education as well.

English is widely language originating in England that is currently the primary language of a number of countries. It is extensively used as a second language and official language in many other countries. English is the most taught and understood language in the world, and sometimes is described as lingua franca.² Although modern standards Chinese has more mother tongue speaker (approximately 700 millions). Although it is used by more people as a second or foreign language, putting the total number of English speakers worldwide at well over one billion.

The people who master English have bigger opportunity in their lives than those who do not. it is because English is one of the foreign languages which plays an important role in all aspects of human life such as technology, economy, social and politics. Beside that English is an international language for communication.

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In Indonesia, English a compulsory subject, which is taught to the students from elementary school until university, include junior and senior high school.

English is also very important for current and future. So it is very natural if English will be taught for children from beginning, this is done to prepare them to face globalization era, because they are the young generation to be leaders in the future. The children in the future era will be alive in advance society, so children have to prepare for that life.

English is a foreign language which has four skills that should be developed and mastered by English of foreign language learners. i.e. Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing.

Sentence is a set of words that is complete in itself, conveying a statement, question, exclamation, or command and typically containing a subject and predicate. Sentence also means a series of signs or symbols expressing a proposition in an artificial or logical language.

One of kinds of sentences in English is elliptical sentences. The elliptical sentence is the sentence to express two sentences that having in the same place and time become one sentence without less of the meaning. Position of Elliptical sentences is a sentence holds an important role that will determine whether the sentence are really good meaning – containing sentences.

Based on the writer’s previous observation, it known that elliptical sentences has learned by teacher to second grade students of state Islamic junior
high school 2 BAS Barabai. Elliptical sentences usually becomes a problem for the students to be master on it.

Based on what the writer has explained above, the writer organizes the thesis with the title “Mastery on Elliptical Sentences by the Second Grade Students of State Islamic Junior High School 2 BAS Barabai Academic Year 2007-2008”.

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

1. Mastery is gain complete knowledge of or skill something. To gain control of something; to overcome something, able to control other; dominating, very skillful, great skill.³

2. Elliptical Sentences is the sentence to express two sentences that having in the same place and time become one sentence without less of the meaning.⁴

B. Statement of the Problem

Concerning the topic, the problem of this research can be formulated as follow:

1. How is the student’s mastery on elliptical sentences by the second grade students of State Islamic Junior High School 2 BAS Barabai Academic Year 2007-2008?

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⁴ Elan Dwi Winarno, Belajar Tuntas Tata Bahasa Inggris, (Yogyakarta: Pustaka Pelajar, 1999) p. 115
2. What are the factors that influence mastery on elliptical sentences by the second grade students of State Islamic Junior High School 2 BAS Barabai Academic Year 2007-2008?

C. Reason for Adopting the Title

There are some reasons that make the writer adopted this title. They are:

1. English is one of the most popular languages in the world that has become the main communication device the field of science and technology.

2. Mastery on elliptical sentences will be able to widely give contribution in developing students' on express and understanding sentences

3. State Islamic Junior High School 2 BAS Barabai is one of the junior high school which has a high quality. And this problem as phenomena which never specially researched before at State Islamic Junior High School 2 BAS Barabai.

D. Purpose of Research

Based on the problem above the writer has two purposes, they are:

1. To know the students' mastery on elliptical sentences by the second grade students of State Islamic Junior High School 2 BAS Barabai Academic Year 2007-2008

2. To know the factors that influence mastery on elliptical sentences by the second grade students of State Islamic Junior High School 2 BAS Barabai Academic Year 2007-2008
E. Significances of research

The writer hopes to the result that are got in this research can be useful as follows:
1. As input and thinking for all sides of State Islamic Junior High School 2 BAS Barabai in order to determine developing English skills of the Students State Islamic Junior High School 2 BAS Barabai.
2. As effort to add insight for the writer and all sides especially how are the teacher’s skills in developing English skills of the students.
3. To add treasure of Tarbiyah faculty and IAIN Antasari Banjarmasin library.

F. Organization of content

To make the study easier, the writer makes organization of content that includes five chapters, they are:

Chapter I is introduction that includes rationale, Statement of the problem, Reason for Adopting the title, Purpose of research, Significance of research, and Organization of the content.

Chapter II is theoretical review about English characteristic, definition of sentences and mastery, definition, function and position of elliptical sentences and the most actually and even currently objective data for the research question.

Chapter III is method of research, which consists of subject and object of research, data, and source of data, techniques of data collection, design measurement, Research Basic Framework, Technique of Data Processing, Data Analysis, and Research procedure.
Chapter IV is report of research result that includes General Description of research location, Data Presentation, and Data Analysis.

Chapter V is closure that includes Conclusion and suggestions.