

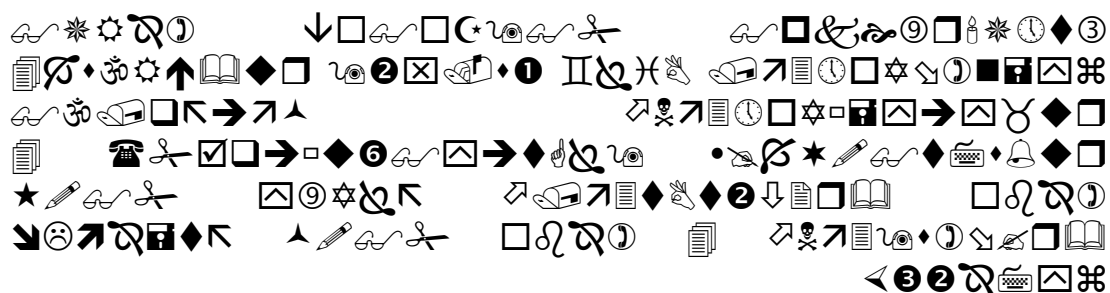
## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

#### A. Rationale

Man is a social being who always needs another's help. It is hardly imagined that he is able to live alone in a forest without being accompanied by another. In reality, he lives together and cooperates between one to another. Thus, human beings are a social creature because they have to live a community.<sup>1</sup> They need interaction each other in their life. Everybody needs to communicate with his or her surroundings.

The need of communication is felt when they want to tell some information or messages to others. There are many kinds of nations and tribes in the world and each of them need a communication tool to know each other, as stated in the Holy Koran in the Al-Hujurat verse 13, as follows:



That verse suggests us to know each other, and to know each other, language plays an important tool for communication because the language will make people be able to close with another.

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<sup>1</sup> Fatchul Mu'in and Sirajuddin Kamal, *Sociolinguistics an Introduction (Teaching Materials for Sociolinguistics)*, (Banjarmasin: PBS FKIP Universitas Lambung Mangkurat, 2006), p. 21

Language is one of communication instruments especially among humans. By using language, people can easily communicate to each other. The language is used to show their thought and feeling, wish and activities, and to influence others. Also, the language can explain about personality of someone, either good or bad, background of education, association, and tradition. It is also a sign of family or nation.<sup>2</sup>

Finocchiaro gave the term of language as follows:

A language is a uniquely human activity. It is often characterized “as species specific”, in example, it is an instrument possessed 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 beings in community understand and speak well enough to carry out every activity of human life.<sup>3</sup>

Language is a God’s gift for human being. He created different languages so that the language is part of His Power. In Ar-Rum, verse 22 of the Holy Koran, says that:



Our languages spoken and written, structured, and function.<sup>4</sup> And one of language functions is to promulgate of knowledge. Knowledge about the language is

<sup>2</sup> Samsuri, *Analisa Bahasa*, (Jakarta: Erlangga, 1978), p. 4.

<sup>3</sup> Mary Finocchiaro, *English as a Second Language: from Theory of Practice*, (New York: Regents Publishing Company, Inc, 1975), p. 2.

<sup>4</sup> Samsuri, *op. cit.*, p. 6.

very important to write books. Some of new inventions in science, either exact or non exact sciences made in a book in other that can be propagated. The books are written in several languages and majority in international language that is English. Because of the important position, English course taken on in curriculum in the schools of elementary education to institution in Indonesia.

Study a language means studying how to express thought and opinion in communication either orally or written. If someone has good language competence, it is expected to be able to communicate with others correctly and fluently, either in oral or written. He is expected as good speaker and listener or as comprehensive reader as well as skilled writer in daily life.<sup>5</sup>

In English, there are four skills that are writing, reading, speaking, and listening. The skills divided into two classifications, first is receptive skill they are listening and reading skill. The second one is productive skill they are speaking and writing. In fact, people can not apart from the four skills. Naturally, each skill is mutually dependence with other skill because they are a unity. So, if someone wants master English, basically he has to improve the four skills together. However, to special purpose one skill can be more improved than other, for example, writing.<sup>6</sup>

Writing is one of four skills. Writing is a language skill used to communicate indirectly; that is not face to face with others. It is a productive and expressive activity. In this activity the writer must skilled in using graphology, grammar, and

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<sup>5</sup> Tabrani Rusyan, *et. al.*, *Pendekatan dalam PBM*, (Bandung: PT. Remaja Rosdakarya, 1987), p. 17.

<sup>6</sup> Tri Wiratno, *Kiat Menulis Karya Ilmiah dalam Bahasa Inggris*, (Yogyakarta: Pustaka Pelajar, 2003), Cet. Ke- 1, p. 1.

vocabulary.<sup>7</sup> The writing mastery is not thing obtained naturally, but it needs to do training step by step. Writing should be done “a little and often”. Many successful exercises are quite short mini-exercises devised by the teacher to give students the chance to consolidate their learning.<sup>8</sup> Therefore, in teaching writing process, the student must be involved especially in exercises and evaluation in other that can be more competence in writing skill. Teacher is a role in main teaching-learning and he or she is demanded to have certain ability in skill in which planned and poured in the unit of lesson program.

Writing involves more than just producing sentences. To be able to write a piece of prose, we must be able to write a connected series of sentences which are grammatically and logically linked. It is also necessary to be able to write appropriately for the king of purpose and audience we have in mind, and it is in institutional writing that the guide-lines for appropriateness are most easily discovered, demonstrated and applied. We must also write in other to *communicate* something to our intended audience, and since this audience is not physically present, what we write must be as clear, precise and unambiguous as possible. In short, we must produce a piece of discourse which embodies correctness of form, appropriateness of style and unity of theme and topic.<sup>9</sup>

New method to teach English is begun by listen and imitates the utterance. Ability of reading and writing come from of knowledge orally. Beside that

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<sup>7</sup> Henry Guntur Tarigan, *Menulis sebagai Suatu Keterampilan Berbahasa*, (Bandung: Angkasa, 1993), p. 3.

<sup>8</sup> Neville Grant, *Making the Most of Your Textbook*, (New York: Loongman, inc, 1987), p. 106.

<sup>9</sup> Ronald V. White, *Teaching Written English*, (London: Britis Library Cataloguing, 1980), p. 16.

knowledge about grammar or structure about the language is very important. This is for compare similarity or difference of first and second language. The comparison can reveal similarity or difference grammar between two or more language.<sup>10</sup>

Grammar is one important subject matter that should be mastered in English. It helps students to construct a grammatically correct utterance and writing sentence grammatically is easily understood to interlocutor rather than ungrammatical one. Moreover in writing language, the writing has to be constructed in grammatically accepted form.

On the first sounding at State Islamic Senior High School Pugaan, the writer gets information that students get difficulties in writing skill, especially in grammatical writing. Because of that, the writer wants to know degree of the mastery in grammatical writing of the eleventh grade students at State Islamic Senior High School Pugaan academic year 2008/2009 because their mastery still not yet clears.

Based on the description above, the writer is interested in conducting a research entitled: **“THE MASTERY OF THE ELEVENTH GRADE STUDENTS IN GRAMMATICAL WRITING AT STATE ISLAMIC SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL PUGAAN TABALONG REGENCY ACADEMIC YEAR 2008/2009”**.

To avoid any misunderstanding about the title, it is necessary to clarify the terms including in the title as follows:

1. Mastery : Complete knowledge, great skill.<sup>11</sup> The mastery that discussed here is the understanding to use knowledge or skill. It means students' mastery in writing English well.

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<sup>10</sup> Samsuri, *op. cit.*, p. 8.

2. Grammatical : A correct sentence according to the rules of grammar.<sup>12</sup> It means the sentences written by using appropriate grammar and have complete meaning. Of course, the grammar is accepted by linguists as form or composition that possible in a language.
3. Writing : The art of putting proper words in proper places.<sup>13</sup> The writing in this study is limited only to write English sentences by completing sentences, rearranging words into sentences, and completing passage. The grammatical aspect in this writing is only about tenses.

Thus, this title means students' mastery in writing to make correct sentences grammatically. According to the meaning, this research intended to know capacity or power of the eleventh grade students at State Islamic Senior High School Pugaan Tabalong Regency academic year 2008/2009 to understand and apply English tenses in writing, especially present tense, present continuous tense, present perfect tense, past tense, and future tense in positive, negative, and interrogative sentence. Also the writer will identify some factors influence the problem.

## **B. Formulation of Problem**

Based on the topic, the problem of this research is formulated as follows:

1. How is the mastery of grammatical writing of the eleventh grade students at State Islamic Senior High School Pugaan Tabalong Regency academic year 2008/2009?

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<sup>11</sup> AS. Hornby, *Advanced Learners' Dictionary of Current English*, (New York: Oxford University Press, 1995), p. 721.

<sup>12</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 517.

<sup>13</sup> Larry Barkel, *Communication*, (New Jersey: Prentice Hall, 1981), p. 13.

2. What factors are supposed to influence students' mastery in grammatical writing of the eleventh grade students at State Islamic Senior High School Pugaan Tabalong Regency academic year 2008/2009?

### **C. Reasons for Choosing the Title**

There are some reasons for choosing this title, they are:

1. Ability of writing is one of skill aspect that must be mastered by every student. Included, students at State Islamic Senior High School Pugaan.
2. Writing skill is very important to propagate ideas, information and knowledge to other.
3. As the writer knows this research problems have not been done before.

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

1. To know the mastery of the eleventh grade students in grammatical writing at State Islamic Senior High School Pugaan Tabalong Regency academic year 2008/2009.
2. To know the influential factors of eleventh grade students' mastery in grammatical writing.

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

This research has significance as follows:

1. As a judgment for English teacher in learning English in order that writing skill be increased.

2. Information for students to know their weakness and excess objectively until they can write correctly.
3. To enrich writer's knowledge and experience in scientific research and learning more about English, especially in grammatical writing.
4. Be information and comparison for the next researchers.
5. Be enrichment of Antasari State Institute for Islamic Studies Banjarmasin library's literature.

#### **F. Organization of the Writing**

The writer organizes this research into five chapters as follows:

The first chapter contains introduction: rationale, formulation of problems, reasons for choosing the title, purpose of the research, significance of the research and organization of the writing.

The second chapter contains theoretical review: definition of grammar, definition of writing and its purpose, the important of grammar in writing skill, and some factors that influence the students' mastery in grammatical writing.

The third chapter contains method of research: subject and object of the research, data, source of data, techniques of data collecting, design of measurement, techniques of data processing and analysis, and research procedure.

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

The fifth chapter contains closure: conclusion and suggestions.