

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of Study

Humans are social creatures. Because of that human beings need each other. One way to connect with other is using language. Language is a system of sounds and words used by humans to express their thoughts and feelings. Furthermore, language is a tool of communication. Pyles and Algeo (1982:3) define language as a system of conventional vocal signs by means of which human beings to communicate. The study of language is called linguistics. One of the core areas of linguistics is morphology. Etymologically, the word morphology is from Greek, the meaning “shape” or “form”. By that definition, it is the branch of linguistics and one of the major components of grammar that studies words structures, especially in terms of morphemes. According to Salmon (2000) the term morphology has been taken over from biology where it is used to denote the study of the forms of animals or plants. The central concern of morphology has traditionally been the study of the structure and content of words. Generally, morphology is related to pattern of word formation.

Word formation is a process of creating new words. Creating a word label for a new kind of entity, event, or property may have the additional pragmatic advantage that it draws attention to a new concept involved. One method consists of the creation of new words by utilizing the words and morphemes that are already available. This method of word formation consists of various processes, of which

derivation and compounding are the most common. Derivation generally describes about affixes that are prefixes, suffixes, and infixes in detail. A prefix is a letter or group of letters added to the beginning of a word. For examples: *unpopular*, *reuse*, *semicircle*, etc. While all affixes added to the end of the word is called suffixes such as *believable*, *illness*, *peaceful*, etc. The third type of affix is infixes (not normally used in English, but found in some other languages for example *Kamhmu* a language spoken from in South-East Asia) where an affix that is incorporated inside another word, such as *see* (verb) becomes *srnee* (noun). Compounding is a process of combining two or more bases into a new word together. For examples: *good looking*, *notebook*, *greenhouse*, etc.

In the modern era, the process of creating new words is conducted because of many reasons and importance. For example: in modern English the prefix *e-* is used to create new words that are connected with the internet as *e-learning*, *e-book*, *e-bank*, etc. Based on the existing of word formation, which is about how to create a new word by using words that are already available. So, everyone can make new words or sentences based on an importance or certain necessary. The problem is not every person learns and also knows well about word formation. Consequently, many errors or mistakes are found in creating new words or sentences.

Error is a mistake that happened due to the lack of knowledge (Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary). There are two types of error that is interlingual errors and intralingual errors. An interlingual error is related to first language transfer. The language transfer from the mother language or any other previously

learned language into foreign language. One of the reasons of error in writing is caused by interference of first language. The other reason that causes errors in writing is spelling pronunciation. Generally, people write what they listen. The fact is that in English there are many words that the spelling is very different with the pronunciation. There are many letters in the alphabet that are silent letters, which can cause all sorts of problems with spelling and pronunciation. Silent letters are letters that appear in the spelling of words, but do not make a sound. On the other hand, silent letters are letters that exist when writing the word but they are not pronounced.

Writing is a medium of human communication that represents language and emotion through the inscription of sign or symbol. Something that is written is called as written text. Written English is a set of words or sentences which have certain purpose and importance, such as for information, promotion, advertising, warning, announcement, and etc. Written English here means English texts which are found at public areas such as advertisement, brand names, service, and notice. In the real fact, people are really curious for using English to fulfill certain necessary or importance. People use English because they believe that it is something interesting, and it makes more seems modern. In fact, the researcher found many errors of written English around exactly at public areas such as streets, shops, markets, and schools in Banjarmasin. There are many written English in every area of the city in a country, especially Banjarmasin. Banjarmasin is one of the big cities in Kalimantan. It has many written English at public areas. It means that it will be

easy for the researcher to find the written English. For this research the researcher will focus on the errors that found in written English at public areas.

The researcher considered some aspects before conducting this research, one of them is the existence of previous research that similar to this research. The results showed there is researcher who conducted the study on error analysis of English at public areas, and the previous researcher is: Jaitun and Faidah Yusuf (2015) conducted a research entitled *Error Analysis on Spelling Words of Public Space at Mangasa District of Manuriki II in Makassar South Sulawesi*. The similarity between this research with their research is the subject, that is pictures of words (written English) in public space or area. The difference between this research and the previous research is the object which focuses on spelling error. The previous research will be useful as reference for conducting and developing this research.

Actually, everything in this world must be analyzed even if it is small such as errors in written English. In Islam, it is encouraged to think and analyze something before we practice it. There are many verses in Al-Qur'an that ask us to think and analyze everything that exists in the world, one of them is in surah Al-An'am . Allah says in Holy-Qur'an surah Al-An'am verse 50 as follows

قُلْ لَا أَقُولُ لَكُمْ عِنْدِي خَزَائِنُ اللَّهِ وَلَا أَعْلَمُ الْغَيْبَ وَلَا أَقُولُ لَكُمْ
 إِنِّي مَلَكٌ إِنِ اتَّبَعْتُمْ إِلَّا مَا يُوحَىٰ إِلَيَّ قُلْ هَلْ يَسْتَوِي الْأَعْمَىٰ
 وَالْبَصِيرُ أَفَلَا تَتَفَكَّرُونَ ﴿٥٠﴾

From the verse above, the researcher can conclude that everyone has to think and analyze about everything that exists in the world. For example, if we see or read about something such as advertisement, notice, and etc it means that we should analyzed it. When we found the errors, it means that we have responsibility to fix it and tell about the correct one. We need to think deeply and apply what we got and learned from everything in our life for our society. Based on the fact above, the writer is really curious and inspired to make a research entitled **“The Error Analysis of Written English at Public Area in Banjarmasin”**.

B. Problem Statement

This research aims to know about the errors of written English at public areas in Banjarmasin. The research questions are determined as follows:

1. What kinds of errors are found in written English at public areas in Banjarmasin?
2. What is the most common error in written English at public areas in Banjarmasin?

C. Objective of Study

Based on the questions formulated above, the aims of this research are:

1. To know about the kinds of error in written English at public areas in Banjarmasin
2. To know about the most common error in written English at public areas in Banjarmasin

D. Significance of Study

The results of the research are expected to:

1. Give additional information about morphology especially on word formation
2. Give the readers information about kinds of error that found in written English at public area in Banjarmasin
3. Help people know and consider about the correct written English
4. Enrich the writer's knowledge and experience, especially about written English at public areas in Banjarmasin.

E. Definitions of Key Terms

The key terms, which are necessary to clarify briefly in order to avoid misunderstanding, can be mentioned as follows:

1. Error is a thing done wrongly that happened due to the lack of knowledge
2. Analysis is the process of breaking complex topic or substance into smaller parts in order to gain a better understanding of it.

3. Error analysis is the fact that someone does make errors and that these errors can be analyzed, observed, and classified to reveal something (Brown 2000:208). Analyze here means every element in written English such as grammar, and spelling.
4. Written English is a set of words or sentences which is having certain purpose and importance, such as for information, promotion, advertising, warning, announcement, and etc. For examples: Advertisement, brand name, service, and notice.
5. Public area means any indoor or outdoor area that is generally open and accessible to people. A place where everyone can go there. Public area here means markets, shops, streets, and schools.