

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents the background of the study, the statement of the research problem, the objective of research, significance of research, scope and limitation of the research and the definition of key term.

A. Background of the Study

Grammar is a system of rule governing the conventional arrangement and relationship of words in a sentence.¹ One of the grammar functions is to build sentences which are arranged by the words. In other word, the organization of words is important to organize a good sentence. The organization of words that is often called word categories or parts of speech takes a big part to make English sentence.

There is a long tradition of classifying words, for the purpose of grammatical description, into the eight word classes. They are noun, verb, adjective, adverb, pronoun, preposition, conjunction, and interjection. They are very useful and indispensable for practical purposes, their status in a fully explicit description of a language or in general grammatical theory remains disputed. Although most of the traditional word class distinctions can be made in most languages, the cross-linguistic applicability of these notions is often problematic.

¹D. Brown, *Teaching by Principle*. New York; Prentice Hall Regents, Inc 1994. p. 347

English words are divided into eight different parts of speech according to their functions in a sentence. They play their functions to build sentence. The words that form the basic sentences are nouns, pronouns, verbs, article, adjectives, adverbs, prepositions, and conjunctions.

Parts of speech are one of the basic foundations in building English sentence. They form the central role in developing sentence. Each part of speech depends on another to form meaningful sentence. In other words, all of them cannot stand alone, but they play their grammatical sentence.

Based on the writer experience, some of the university's students at STAIN Kediri cannot identify parts of speech. They are still confused in using parts of speech, so they cannot build a sentence correctly. Although in fact, learning the names of parts of speech is not enough to make the students skilled in forming sentence, students have not only to comprehend for sure what part of speech of word is, but also they have to master its meaning and position. Those are considered to be important things for students to have better result in making sentence structure correctly.

Parts of speech are kinds of word that form a sentence. There are eight parts of speech. Understanding parts of speech are necessary in building sentence structure grammatically, because a sentence is built based on the word categories and functions. While, according to Rozakies the way a word is used in a sentence determines which part of speech it is.²

²Rozakies. *English Grammar for Utterly Confused*. New York; The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc 2003. p. 15

From the explanation above, the writer would like to find out whether there is any correlation between students' mastery of parts of speech and their ability in building sentence structure. That is the reason why the writer takes "The Correlation between Students' Parts of Speech Mastery and their Ability in constructing English sentence at STAIN Kediri" as his research topic.

B. The Statement Of Problem

Based on the background above, there are some problems that will be investigated. The problem that will be investigated in this research are formulated as follows:

"Is there any correlation between students' mastery of parts of speech and their ability in constructing English sentence?"

C. Hypothesis

Hypothesis is a prediction about relationship among variables which is not only testable, but also is repeatedly tested toward data.

The following is the form of hypothesis:

- Research hypothesis (H_a) means there is correlation between students' parts of speech mastery and their ability in constructing English sentence.
- Hypothesis Null (H_o) means there is no correlation between students' parts of speech mastery and their ability in constructing English sentence.

D. Research Purposes

This research is meant to analyze the correlation between students' mastery of parts of speech and their ability in constructing English sentence at STAIN Kediri. For this purpose, the writer would like to find out the correlation between students' mastery of parts of speech and their ability in building sentence structure.

E. The Scope and Limitation

The writer has stated that the research is focused only on the correlation between students' mastery of parts of speech and their ability in constructing English sentence at STAIN Kediri in forth semester as the subject of this study.

There are eight parts of speech in English. Those are Nouns, Pronouns, Verbs, Adjectives, articles, adverbs, prepositions, and conjunctions. In this research the writer only takes noun, pronoun, verb, adverb and adjective as the instrument of test as they are the most commonly used parts of speech in constructing English sentence.

F. The Significance of the Research

There are some values that can be provided by the future result of the study. It can be used as a source for the writer, students, English teachers, and the other researchers.

- a. For writer, the result can improve the writer's knowledge and idea of what parts of speech are in regards and helpful in learning basic sentence structure.

- b. For students, the students are expected to increase the parts of speech mastery, and realizing that learning the names of the basic parts of speech is one way to understand how sentences are put together.
- c. For the lecturers, the lecturers can find out the level of the students mastery of parts of speech, so they can prepare the proper teaching material. Besides, they can find out the specific difficulties faced by students in mastering parts of speech and anticipate the way of overcoming them.
- d. For other researchers, considering that grammar an important field, it will be an interesting topic to investigate. The writer hopes the result of this study can be a reference information to another investigation in the same field.

G. The Definition of Key Terms

- a. Correlation is a mutual relationship or connection in which one thing affect or depend on another something (Oxford advance learner's dictionary)
- b. Part of speech is one of the classes of words (Oxford learner's pocket dictionary).
- c. Mastery
Mastery is great skill or knowledge (Oxford learner's dictionary)
Mastery is complete knowledge or command of a subject or skill (Oxford Mini dictionary)
- d. Ability
Ability is the power to do something (Oxford Mini dictionary)

e. Sentence

Sentence is a group of words with two main parts: Subject and a Predicate area. Together the subject and predicate express a complete thought.

Sentence is a set of words that is complete in itself, conveying a statement, question, etc (Oxford Mini dictionary)