

## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

The chapter discusses the background of the study, statement of the problems, objectives of the study, significance of the study, scope and limitation of the study, and definition of key terms.

#### A. Background of the Study

The study of language becomes very important in this modern world. Language is very important to express everything in our social life. It is a basic need of human being to interact each other. As a tool of communication, people use it to express their needs, ideas, thoughts, and feelings.

English as an international language is widely used in all around the world as a native language or second language. For Indonesian learners, English becomes one of the important subjects that they must to master it. English has many roles that must be mastered by learners. Of course, it is different with the role of Indonesian language.

Indonesian students still get difficulty to master English well. It is because English is not their first language. They often make an error, especially in writing. When using English, they are often influenced by Indonesian structure. Sometimes they were not aware of those influences. They thought that there is no problem when the communication can run well and the communicators can understand what they say. It means that they feel there is no wrong in their writing.

Writing is a form of communication to deliver thought or to express feeling through written form.<sup>1</sup> Writing can be used as an indirect means of communication to others to convey information. We can write when we want to communicate with others. But sometimes we still make errors when we write. There are many errors in writing, one of the errors are interferences. There are differences between first language and second language. Sometimes it makes difficult to transfer the first language into second language. But it is normal problem that are always faced by bilingual or multilingual background people. The problem of language norm in spoken or written as an effect of language contact done by bilingual or multilingual person is called as interference.

According to Krashen, interference is a negative transfer that consists of errors. The errors are not traceable to the structure of L1 and commonly practiced by L2 learners. The L1 role in L2 proficiency is as a substitute utterance initiator. Taken into consideration, bilingualism or even multilingualism background normally will cause interference and integration.<sup>2</sup> Meanwhile Alwasilah defined interference based on Hartman and Stonk formulae that interference is an error caused by a tendency of using certain language utterances to another language that cover pronunciation, structure, and vocabularies.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Jeremy Harmer, *The Practice of English Language Teaching*. (England: Essex), 2001, p.79.

<sup>2</sup> Stephen Krashen, *Second Language Acquisition and Second Language Learning*. (Pergamon Press Inc.), 1981

<sup>3</sup> Chaedar Alwasilah, *Sosiologi Bahasa*, (Bandung: Angkasa), 1985, p. 131.

There was a study that has been conducted related to the grammatical interference namely, An Analysis of Grammatical Interference in Articles of Berani Newspaper by Martanti.<sup>4</sup> The result found some types of grammatical interference on the article. There are two types of grammatical interference. Firstly, Morphological errors such as subject-verb agreement, singular-plural agreement, passive voice, to infinitive, and forms of adjective. Then, Syntax errors which are redundancy, preposition, misplaced word and parallel structure.

Besides, there is the study of Maros<sup>5</sup> about “Interference in Learning English: Grammatical Errors in English Essay Writing Among Rural Malay Secondary School Students in Malaysia”. It presents an analysis of interference effect, a factor that plays an important role in inhibiting the acquisition of English among young Malay learners in Malaysian schools. The data substantiating the discussion throughout the article came from an empirical study of errors in essays written by Form One students in six years of learning English grammar. The three most frequent errors are: the use of articles, subject-verb agreement, and copula ‘be’.

Another study, conducted by Bhela on the combination of two Asian languages (Vietnamese and Cambodian) and two European languages

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<sup>4</sup>Putri Martanti. *An Analysis of Grammatical Interference in Articles of BERANI Newspaper*. Jakarta: State Islamic University “Syarif Hidayatullah”, 2011

<sup>5</sup> Marlyana Maros, Tan Kim Hua & Khazriyati Salehudin, “Interference in Learning English: Grammatical Errors in English Essay Writing Among Rural Malay Secondary School Students in Malaysia” *e-Bangi Journal*, 2 (2007), p. 1

(Spanish and Italian) also found that the most common interference happen is about SVA such as the usage of present, past tense, and plural.<sup>6</sup>

In this study, the researcher is curious to analyze the types of students' grammatical interference in the writing descriptive text, but the object is the seventh grade students at MTsN Kunir Wonodadi Blitar. Interferences exist in some aspects such as phonological, morphological, syntax, and cultural. It may occur in speaking or writing. In this research, the researcher takes writing form as the data source of the analysis because in writing we can directly recognize the interference. The descriptive text here is produced by students in the first grade of MTsN Kunir Wonodadi Blitar. It is because in MTsN Kunir, especially in the seventh grade, the students felt difficult to write a descriptive text. The researcher found it when taught in MTsN Kunir Wonodadi Blitar. Therefore, interference in the students' descriptive text is important to be studied. If the mistake is not recognized soon, it will be worse for students in mastering English. Based on this case, the researcher is interested to conduct the research about "**An Analysis on Grammatical Interferences on Students' Writing Descriptive Text at the First Grade of MTsN Kunir Wonodadi Blitar**"

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<sup>6</sup>Baljit Bhela, "Native Language Interference in Learning a Second Language: Exploratory Case Studies of Native Language Interference with Target Language Usage", *International Education Journal Vol 1, No 1, 1999*, p.8.

## **B. Statement of the Problems**

Based on the background of the study, the writer plans to do analysis of grammatical interferences in English sentences of students' writing. So, the question to be discussed is:

“What kinds of grammatical interferences are experienced by the seventh grade students of MTsN Kunir Wonodadi Blitar in writing descriptive text?”

## **C. Objective of the Study**

Based on the research question, the objective of the research is:

“To know the kinds of grammatical interferences experienced by the seventh grade students of MTsN Kunir Wonodadi Blitar in writing descriptive text.”

## **D. Significance of the Study**

This research is expected to give contribution for those who are interested in Second Language Acquisition study. The researcher hopes that it can give additional knowledge and the reference to English teacher in determining the appropriate method or technique to make the students understand in applying the rule of English. To the learners, this study can help them to understand and apply the usage of English. Finally, this research is fully expected to be useful and support the next researchers who are interested in language interference and other Second Language Acquisition study.

## **E. Scope and Limitation of the Study**

In this study, the scope of this research is the first grade students of MTsN Kunir Wonodadi Blitar on class 7.8. This researcher limits on analyzing the grammatical interference of the students in writing descriptive text and the topic is “house”.

## **F. Definition of Key Terms**

Some key terms that are used in this research are explained as follow:

### 1. Interference

Interference is when speakers or writers applying knowledge from their native language to a second language.<sup>7</sup>

### 2. Grammatical Interference

Grammatical interference is defined as the first language influencing the second in terms of word order, use of pronouns and determinants, tense and mood.<sup>8</sup>

### 3. English writing

English writing is an activity in which a person expresses their ideas, thought, and feeling in written form to communicate with others.

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<sup>7</sup>Marlin Dwinastiti, “Language Interference”.

(<http://www.marlindwinastiti.wordpress.com/2013/04/02/language-interference>, 25<sup>th</sup> April 2015).

<sup>8</sup>Deepa M.S, Avanthi N., Abhishek B.P., and ShyamalaChengappa, Ph.D., V.2009, Phonological, Grammatical and Lexical Interference in Adult Multilingual Speakers, <http://www.languageinindia.com>, 1<sup>st</sup> April 2015

#### 4. Descriptive text

Descriptive text is a text which describes a particular person, thing or place.