

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents background of the study, research problem, objective of the study, the significant of the study, scope and limitation, and definition of key terms.

A. Background of the study

As university students, they will be faced with research assignments to fulfil the requirements of their program. Conducting research is the main requirement set by the university for the students in order to be graduated. This is implemented because university students as academics will be considered as contributing to their knowledge when they are able to conduct research and put it in the form of scientific work.

Scientific work is a kind of writing activities that are conducted according to the study or scientific research. It is written systematically and using scientific language and its principle.

In conducting research and writing scientific work in the form of thesis, university students will pass several steps starting from determining research questions, relevance study, research method, up to writing research. Writing scientific work is not easy. Students need to have good writing skill. Writing skill is one from four English skills that according many researchers the most difficult to master. This is occurred

because writing is quite complicated process. The students in writing research must deliver all the ideas properly and correctly.

In writing thesis, the students must pay attention to every part of it. One of the parts that is very crucial is abstract. Abstract is short writing that contains summary of the scientific writing. It is used by the reader as an overview of the whole content of the thesis.

Abstract is important in a thesis because it provides the information about the contents of the research and the result of the research. This helps the reader to easily determine and consider whether the reader needs read the whole paper or not. Due to its important, students must be careful and understand how to write abstract so that they can minimize the errors. Although abstract is considered as short writing but errors in writing abstract are often unavoidable.

Considering English language education department students are prepared to be English teacher, it is so urgent to know how they use English in their writing. Applying correct sentence and word is important especially for academic writing. The benefit of applying correct grammar are: facilitating our English skills when communicating with both first language speakers and second language learners, helping to minimize word mistakes since English vocabulary is vary and the place is adjust to the time, and easy to understand what the interlocutor say and vice versa when using English in a conversation.

But, in the fact, it cannot be avoided that sometimes students did error in constructing phrases or sentences even in a thesis abstract. It is understandable why does it happen since basically they are still in the learning process. The differences of grammatical rules between English and Indonesia make difficult so they can make errors in making sentences. Ellis explains that Second Language Acquisition (SLA) is strongly affected by the learner's first language. According to Brown, mistakes are the part of learning process (Ellis, 1986). Mistakes, miscalculation, misjudgement, and wrong assumptions made a significant facet of overall learning and obtaining information. (Brown, 2003)

Errors commonly occur in academic writings, particularly in abstracts. There have been error analysis studies conducted on abstracts. Three examples of the studies are: first, a previous error analysis study on students' writing which was conducted by Banjar Putri Kumala (2018) revealed that students committed errors in their writings. The errors were mostly caused by the missing component or called omission. Second, Setiawan (2014) conducted similar research which analysed English translation errors on post graduate students' abstract of Educational Administration in the State University of Medan. It was found that the most frequent error type was the use of verb group. Last, the study of error analysis on undergraduate thesis abstracts of English Language Education Students of Sanata Dharma University that conducted by Voni

Novita (2018) found that many errors were made by the students and the most frequent errors made was omission error.

Given the result above, it can be seen that even students majoring English language are still prone of errors, especially when English is as foreign language. It is thought to be necessary to investigate grammatical errors and mistakes made by English Language and Education students at IAIN Kediri in order to discover what they are. Therefore, the researcher chose the title “An Analysis on Grammatical Errors Made by English Language and Education Students in Writing Thesis Abstract (A Case Study at State Islamic Institute of Kediri)”

B. Research Problem

Based on the background of the study that has been explained above, the researcher formulates the problem as the following:

1. What kinds of grammatical errors made by students in writing thesis abstract at State Islamic Institute of Kediri?
2. What type of grammatical errors that most frequently occur in writing thesis abstract?

C. Objective of the Study

Based on the background of the study and the research question stated above, the objective of the study can be identified as the following:

1. To find out what kind of errors made by English department students in writing thesis abstract at State Islamic Institute of Kediri

2. To find out what type of grammatical errors that most frequently occurs in students' writing.

D. The Significant of the Study

The result of the study is used to give useful contribution both theoretically and practically to present input as the following:

1. For the Students

The result of this analysis can help the students to know their errors and make them improve their writing skills.

2. For Lecturers

This research will give information about their student's comprehension in writing skill.

3. For Further Researcher

This research can be the references to the next research that related with error analysis in writing thesis abstract.

E. Scope and Limitation

To avoid misunderstanding and to clarify the problem, it is significant to make limitation of the problem. As explained before in the background of study and research problem, this research focuses to discuss an error analysis in writing a thesis abstract. It is the thesis abstract made by the English Language and Education Department at State Islamic Institute of Kediri.

F. Definition of Key Term

It is significant to define the key term in this research to make the concept of this research obvious. They are defined as follows:

1. Analysis of Grammatical Errors

Analysis is an examination of something together with thought and judgement about it. Grammatical error is a deviation which is not proper to the grammatical rules that may make writing seem not excellent. Grammar deals with the principles or the way to put words together in order to make correct sentence. In this study, analysis means an examination of student's grammatical error in writing a thesis abstract.

2. Writing

Writing is one of productive skill which is a process of expressing idea, opinion, suggestions in a readable media. Writing in this study is the kind of academic writing which is writing a thesis abstract.

3. Thesis Abstract

An abstract is a brief summary of research article, thesis, review, conference proceeding, or any in-depth analysis of a particular subject. It is often to make the reader quickly ascertain the paper's objective.