

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

Language is known as means of communication which is used by human. This statement means that language helps people to communicate a tremendous attitudes and information among them. It also permits a degree of self expression.

There are many languages used as a means of communication by people around of the world. One of them is English, which has a role as an international language. English is known as the first foreign language taught in Indonesia. It is started from Elementary school up to university, because it is important for developing the science or their communication as English is acknowledged as one of the general basic courses. Except those majoring in English. Like other languages, English also has its own system. This fact might make most Indonesia students encountered difficulties in learning English.

One of the probable cause is that there are differences between Indonesian language and English language. Indonesian students have to master the new language which has different system compared to student's language system in Bahasa Indonesia. Although the four skills (listening, speaking, reading, and writing) are the objective of learning English at Junior and Senior High School, most of graduates are still unable to use English correctly.

There are many problems encountered and one of them is grammar. In order to master the English grammar, the students should start learning grammatical structure such as sentence patterns, tenses, etc. Learning grammar means learning

the form and the function of words and how they are combined into sentences. The use of correct grammar is important in communication.

Grammar as one of the English sub skills comprises many aspects such as: tenses, gerunds, and many others. The writer chooses one aspect of the grammar as her study namely tenses specifically simple present tense. The writer is interested in conducting a study of the simple present tense because the simple present tense seems very easy, most verbs end in -s or -es for the simple present form, but the irregular verb form of the simple present will be vary. This might cause the problem for the students.

In the classroom teacher must create a situation that can encourage real communication. Many activities can be designed to make major element lively. Games is one of the techniques that can be applied in teaching grammar because games is one of potential activity that gives student feeling and freedom to express themselves. Besides that games are also potentially useful to encourage students to interact with each other orally and to make teaching and learning process more interesting so that student enjoys the learning. The writer assumes that “Miming Game, and Dice Game” are combination between language practice and fun. This game is also easy to admire and flexible in terms of subject matter and design.

The simple present tense is taught to the junior and senior high school students. The students should master it without any trouble, but based on the writer experiences and observation, she found that the students made mistakes in the use of the simple present tense in English sentences as shown in the following examples sentences;

1. He drink coffee every day. (wrong)
 - He drinks coffee every day. (correct)
2. My Father go to Surabaya every week. (wrong)
 - My Father goes to Surabaya every week. (correct)
3. Andy come to school in the morning. (wrong)
 - Andy comes to school in the morning. (correct)
4. She cook a rice at night. (wrong)
 - She cooks a rice at night. (correct)
5. We comes once a month. (wrong)
 - We come once a month. (correct)

Based on the example above the writer would like to say that the students still do the errors in the use of simple present tense. Therefore the writer wants to apply games in teaching simple present tense to see if there is any signification improvement of student's in using simple present tense. The writer, then wants to make a study under the title **“The Effectiveness of Games in Teaching Simple Present Tense of the Eighth Grade Students of SMP Negeri 2 Larantuka in the School Year 2014/2015”**.

1.2 Problems Statements

Based on the background, the problems of this study are stated in the following:

1. Is the use of games effective in teaching Simple Present Tense to the eighth grade students of SMP Negeri 2 Larantuka in the school year 2014/2015?

2. What is the ability level of the eighth grade student's of SMP Negeri 2 Larantuka in the school year 2014/2015 in teaching Simple Present Tense after being taught by using games?

1.3 Objective of the Study

According to the problems above, this study is meant to answer them. The objectives in detail are the following:

1. To find out if the use of games effective in teaching Simple Present Tense to the eighth grade students of SMP Negeri 2 Larantuka in the school year 2014/2015.
2. To find out the ability level of the eighth grade student's of SMP Negeri 2 Larantuka in the school year 2014/2015 in mastering Simple Present Tense after being taught by using games.

1.4 Significance of the Study

The significance of the study is actually the usefulness and the benefit of the study for human beings. Just as it has significance for people this study is done. So the result of this study might give benefit for the following persons:

1. For the Writer

The research is going to be good input to enrich the writer's experience in teaching Simple Present Tense. Hopefully, it was also help the writer in teaching any another English materials.

2. For the Students

By knowing the result of this study, the student were improve ability especially in the teaching of Simple Present Tenses.

3. For Other Researchers

To increase other researchers knowledge about the effectiveness of using Games in teaching Simple Present Tense.

1.5 Scope and Limitation

This study is an action research and it is about teaching Simple Present Tense by Using Games. Definition of simple present tense used in this thesis is used to say something was true in the past; it is true in the present and will be true in the future. It is used for general statements of fact and to express habitual or every day activity. The materials are focused on affirmative, negative, and interrogative sentence. For interrogative sentences the writer only focus on yes-no questions, because based on the writer's observation and experiences, some student still committed mistakes in the use of simple present tense in constructing yes-no question. This study was conducted to the eighth grade students of SMP Negeri 2 Larantuka in the school year 2014/2015.

1.6 Definition of the Terms

In this part the writer would like to present some definitions of terms that are used in this study to help the readers understand. They are presented below:

1. Effective

Effective means producing the result that is wanted or intended the most. Effective meant increasing academic questions and decreasing lecture and ineffective practices, such as negative feedback and low-level questions (Swank, Taylor, Brady, Frieberg, 1989: 171). In this study, the effective means to Effective measure whether using Games in teaching Simple Present Tense can improve the ability of the students.

2. Games

According to Haldfield (1999) “A game is an activity with rules, goal and an element of fun. Games should be regarded as an integral part of the language”. This definition highly evaluates the importance of games in teaching. It adds the teachers’ techniques. In teaching, games serve not only as an ‘amusing activity’, but as a technique to carry out tasks to learners amusingly as well. In this study the games used by the writer are: “Miming Game, and Dice Game”.

3. Ability

Ability is a potential capacity or power to do something physically or mentally (hornby, 1987: 2). Here the writer means the ability of the eighth grade students of SMP Negeri 2 Larantuka in using game ability simple present tense.

4. Simple Present Tense

Azar (1992) says that simple present tense is used to say something was true in the past; it is true in the present and will be true in the future. It is used for general statements of fact and to express habitual or everyday activity.

For example: *I go to school every day.*

She reads news paper every morning.

They don't play foot ball in the afternoon.

He doesn't work hard every day.

Does she visit their uncle every Sunday?

5. SMP Negeri 2 Larantuka

SMP Negeri 2 Larantuka is one of the private high schools in Larantuka. It is located on Oka Street, Lewoloba, Larantuka, East Flores Regency. It is the school where this research was conducted.