

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Language is an important part in all humans activities. The existence of language is needed by each person in the world, because language functions as the instrument of communication among the communities in the world. It means, by using language people can easliy interact with one another.

In relation with the explanations above, the writer is interested in learning about language, especially English as a foreign language. Related to the writer's experience in teaching practice, he was particularly interested in the grammatical errors made by the students. The important thing to be emphasized the learners "do make errors" which can be observed, analyzed, and classified to reveal something dealing with the operating system within the learners. As this study is related to be students performance focusing on the forms which deviates from the standard English, the term error used in this context is adapted form Corders(1981:5), Jain (in Richard,1974:4), Steven (in Richard,1974:4), Norish(1983:127) concept about errors.

The expression of language is in two forms, they are in oral form and in written form. By using these forms of language, people are demanded to know the use of structure of language. So the existence of structure in a language is very important, because it can affect the interaction among the people.

There are so many languages in the world and English is one of them. English is generally acknowledged to be the world most important language. It is perhaps worth glancing briefly at the basis for the evaluation. There are, after all, thousands of different

languages in the world and each will seem uniquely important to those who speak it as their native language, the language they acquired as their mother tongue.

During the last few decades English has come closer to being the single international language, having achieved a greater world spread than any other language in recorded history. Many countries acquire it as their second language even as formal language. English as an international languages is used in various fields, such as commerce, technology, politics and education. In the educational field, many books are written in English, therefore students are expected to know the rules of grammar of English comprehensively. So that they can understand what they read, speak or write.

Grammar as a sub skill of English should be learned or mastered by the students which includes tenses, modals, preposition, reported speech, etc. By using direct and indirect speech, the learners learn how to report what he sees, feels and to report his or someone's ideas either in speaking or in writing. This subject covers various kinds of speech such as commands or request, statements, question, and exclamations. Both direct and indirect speech have rules which govern the speech being reported. Therefore to acquire direct and indirect speech the learners must know the rules of reported speech.

The common mistakes appear in reported speech (repeat the speaker's direct speech) and the use of punctuation marks (in direct speech) as presented below.

Examples:

- Direct : *The teacher : " Andy close the door "*.
- Indirect : *The teacher told, Andy close the door(incorect).*

The correct one should be:

The Teacher told Andy to close the door.

- Direct : *Fira asks : Please, don't disturb me (incorect).*

The correct form should be:

Fira asks : “ Please, don’t disturb me ”.

Based on the errors above the writer would like to conduct this study under the title: “
**A STUDY ON THE ERRORS IN USING DIRECT AND INDIRECT SPEECH IN
PAST FORM AT THE SECOND YEAR OF SMP NEGERI 13 KUPANG IN THE
SCHOOL YEAR 2013/2014”**

1.2 Statement of the Problems

The writer conducted this study in order to answer the questions below.

1. Do the eight grade students of SMP 13 in the school year 2013/2014 commit errors in using direct and indirect speech forms in sentences?
2. What are the types of errors committed by the students in using direct and indirect speech forms in sentences?
3. What is the most common error committed by the students in using direct and indirect speech forms in sentences?

1.3 Objectives of the Study

Based on the question in the statement of the Problems, the objectives of the study are as follows:

1. To find out and to know whether the eight grade students of SMP 13 Kupang in the school year 2013/2014 commit errors in using direct and indirect speech forms in sentences or not.
2. To find out and to know the types of errors that are committed by the students in using direct and indirect speech forms in sentences.
3. To find out and to know the most common type of error committed by the students in using direct and indirect speech forms in sentences.

1.4 Significance of the Study

Firstly, this study will be useful for the teachers of English at the researched school in their teaching especially in teaching direct and indirect speech. Secondly, this study will give some inputs to the writer himself as a prospective teacher of English to be more effective in his actual teaching in the future and the writer learn more about the subject matter.

1.5 Scope and Limitation

This study is about errors, especially the errors made by the eight grade students of SMP 13 Kupang in sentences of direct and indirect speech forms cover commands, request, statement, and question (Thomson,1981:178).

1.6 Definition of the Terms

The following are the definitions of terms that can help the readers tonunderstand the whole body of the study.

1. Error is any deviation from a selected norm of languages performance (Dulay:1982).
2. Direct speech refers to reproducing words as they are originally spoken(Azar,1981:139).

Example: *Fira asks: “ Open the door, please!”*

3. Indirect speech is the speech of someone which is reported(Azar,1981:244).

Example: *Fira asked me to open the door.*