

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

Language is used for communication, in this case, the human being have to use it when they are communicating each other. Based on the explanation, it means that language is very important and has an important role for communication. Wardaugh (1972: 33) states that language is a system of arbitrary vocal symbol used for human communication. Based on the statement above it is clear that the language consist of symbol, which will be sent by the speaker/listener to the listener/reader in order that the message can be received.

There are many kinds of language in the world. They are English, Greek, Japanese, Indonesian, Chinese etc. From those kinds of language, English has become an International language. It is very important for people in the world to learn it. It is, because English is always used for communication in almost all sectors. For instance, English is used in accounting, trading, banking and so on. Because of it, English is taught in the developing countries school including our country, Indonesia.

Talking about drugs, it always relates to Pharmacy. Some Pharmacists work in variety of places. Some of these places are drugstore, clinic, hospital and research laboratories. In addition to filling prescriptions and preparing labels, Pharmacist select and purchases drug from companies for sale and use.

Another role of Pharmacist is training other people to be Pharmacist. In drug labels for example, there are many messages written in English, and Pharmacist have to be able to understand the label. Therefore, English is very important for both Pharmacist and the students of Pharmacist.

The reality observed at present, that most students of Pharmacy faculty at UMS are still poor in English. The students often have some difficulties in understanding English sentences into Indonesia language although every student has been given some material including reading, writing, speaking, Grammar and listening. In accordance with the translating of English sentence into Indonesia, the students still face many problems. The problems occur because of lacking on the mastery of English grammar or may be caused by inappropriateness of their word choices. According, one of the Deans of Pharmacy faculty, all of the Pharmacy students of UMS must understand English.

Based on the fact above, the writer is interested to conduct a research about the ability of students of Pharmacy Faculty of UMS to understand drug labels. Because English is important for Pharmacy Faculty students since many Pharmacy books which are written English and to face their practical job that require English mastery. Based on that explanation, the writer conducts a research entitled:

THE STUDY ON THE ABILITY OF THE PHARMACY FACULTY STUDENTS OF UMS IN UNDERSTANDING DRUG LABELS.

B. Problem of the Study

In this research, the writer wants to study how is the students' Pharmaceutical understanding on drug labels. The problem is formulated as follows: "How far the students of Pharmacy Faculty can understand drug labels written in English?

C. Limitation of the Study

For the sake of clarification the writer wants to limit the study as follows:

1. The subjects of the study are the students on the second semester students of Pharmacy Faculty academic year 2002/2003.
2. The study is limited on the understanding of drug labels written in English that are commonly used by society.

D. Purpose of the Study

The research must have a clear purpose so the result will be useful. Based on the formulation of the problem in this research the writer has the purpose:

To describe the students' ability of Pharmacy Faculty to understand drug labels written in English.

E. Benefit of the Study

The theoretical benefit of this study is:

1. To give some input to other researcher who wants to study the students ability on understanding drug labels.

The practical benefit of this study are:

1. To show the problems faced by the students of Pharmacy Faculty in learning English language especially in understanding drug labels.
2. This study will be useful for English Teacher to pay more attention in Teaching English Language, especially students of Pharmacy.

F. Definition of Key Terms

The clarify the meaning of the title, the writer wants to explain terms as follows:

1. ABILITY : From oxford dictionary the (18 A) ability means capacity or power in this case. The writer hopes the students can understand the meaning through drug labels.
2. STUDY : According to America Heritage Dictionary the Word study means the act or process of studying, while webster state that the word analysis of something.

3. UNDERSTANDING : It is ability to understand knowledge skill that has been learned. Understanding in this research meant is the ability to master understand drug labels.

G. Research Paper Organizations

Chapter I. is about the introduction of the study. It consists of brief illustration of the background of the study, problem of the study, limitation of the study, purpose of the study, benefit of the study, definition of key term, research paper organization.

Chapter II. discusses about the notion of reading comprehension, reading comprehension skills, the comprehension of word meaning, the comprehension of sentence meaning, the notion of drug label, the function of drug labels.

Chapter III is methodology of research. It consist of the type of research, the subject of the study, the data source, the method of collecting, the technique of analyzing data, the scoring technique.

Data analysis is talked chapter IV. It consists of, data presentation, data analysis and discussion of the finding.

Chapter IV. Consists of conclusion and suggestion.