

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Communication is important for human life, because communication is simple of sending information from one place or human to another. There are various categories of communication. Those are spoken or verbal communication, non-verbal communication, visualization and written communication. Spoken or verbal communication is activity of face to face communication, telephone, radio and other ways by organ of speech. Non-verbal communication is activity of communication by body language and gestures. Visualization is activity of communication by graphs or charts. Then, written communication is activity of communication by letter or e-mails. The purpose of this communication is thought and feeling of writing. Writing is a sequence of letters, words or symbols marked on paper and many more.

Based on the writing center UNC collage of art and sciences (2017) “good writing must include: reaction, recursive, both subject and object, decision making, progression and linier”. Linier is marking coherent words and ideas on the paper in ways that make sense to a reader. It belongs to logic and grammar clearly. “The profits of learning good grammar are many and diverse, from ability to definite spoken thoughts effectively to improved understanding of the written word and better writing skills.” Mary Gretchen Iorio, Charles E. Beyer, (2001) talked about grammar. Grammar is crucial part of writing, because grammar must use structure of word, phrase and sentence that will make coherence sentence. Kinds of grammar are various, such as sequence of tenses, shape of passive, perfect aspect, progressive aspect, spelling, punctuation and etc. Punctuation is an important unit of grammar, because writing or speaking needs respite to make it clear. Grammar and punctuation have relation. This relation can make it easier for readers to follow the purpose of the writer’s thought. The relation of grammar

and punctuation happened by adverb, noun, verb and adjective. So, the punctuation is necessary for the basic good writing. The readers will be misunderstood about the topic and purpose of the writer if there is no punctuation. Sometimes, they will stuck on technicality.

In other side, according to McCuen & Winkler (2000) punctuation errors occur with the omission or misuse of one of the punctuation marks. There are several types of punctuation likely slash, comma, apostrophe, period, exclamation point, colon, semicolon, question mark, dash and many more. Most of people often use question mark, comma, slash, quotation marks, hyphen and period than other punctuation marks. It happens because they do not understand the usage of the rules on the punctuation. They rarely use other punctuation marks. Nevertheless, punctuation is very important for us especially in academic writing from basic to great to take a study or English department. It will be used by the researcher as a requirement for good writing in which it is needed for using proper punctuation.

Ellis (1994) stated that an error in this procedural sense takes dwelling when the deviation arises a result of lack of knowledge. It represents lack of competence. The brief descriptions of communication, writing, grammar and punctuation are related. This study wants to show that punctuation is very crucial. So, this study wants to describe that many of us still use punctuation or misunderstanding errors when we are writing with correct structure but readers have trouble in understanding the meaning or context of the text. Sometimes, there is a question, why punctuation is important? Punctuation is only as a sweetener of writing. This assumption is wrong because when we use the structure and the right tenses without using proper punctuation, it will be difficult to understand the intention and purpose of the author. So, there is an error in writing. This topic is very interesting for readers. Therefore this topic was chosen with entitled **“An Analysis of Errors in Using Punctuation Marks in Writing Made by Second Semester Students of English Department of Muhammadiyah Surakarta Academic Year 2017 – 2018”**

1.2 Research question

1. What types of punctuation marks are frequently used incorrectly by the second semester students of English Department of UMS?
2. What kinds of errors are frequently made by the second semester students of English Department of UMS in using punctuation mark in writing?

1.3 Object of the study

From the research questions above, this study has some goals as follows: to describe the types of punctuation marks which are frequently used incorrectly and to describe the frequent errors of the second semester students of English department of UMS in using punctuation marks in writing essay.

1.4 Significance of the study

The results of the study are expected to give contributions to the related study both theoretically and practically.

1. Theoretical significance

The result of the study is expected to be reference in teaching learning process especially for teaching writing subject in English Department of Muhammadiyah Surakarta.

2. Practical significance

- a. For learners, this study shows them about some errors that they have made. Therefore, they are interested to improve their perception on punctuation and are able to apply appropriately in their writing.
- b. For lecturers, this study shows kinds of punctuations problems found in writing. Therefore, lecturers especially who instruct writing subject can help their students to use punctuation appropriately in order to produce better English essays.
- c. For other researchers, this study can be used as a reference in doing similar research in the same field in the future.

1.5 Limitation of the Study

This study analyzes the errors in using punctuation made by the second semester students of English Department of Muhammadiyah Surakarta. The test is an instrument to insert the correct punctuation marks in the sentences test. From the test, this study knows what are the errors of punctuation. The scope in this study is the language used as the written form reflected from the students' competence in writing narrative text. The narrative text is included eleven punctuation marks. This study focuses on the kinds of errors made by students of using punctuation mark and these are kinds of punctuation which is frequently done by the students. This study analyzes the error using the punctuation of period, question mark, exclamation point, comma and etc by Brown, Richard, Dulay and Gass & Selinker theory.

1.6 Paper Organization

In order to make the study easier to understand, this research is divided into five chapters.

Chapter 1 is introduction. It contains background of the study, research question, object of the study, significant of the study, limitation of the study, and paper organization.

Chapter 2 is theoretical review. It contains literature review and previous study. Literature contains definition of grammar, the nature of errors, type of errors, punctuation and previous study and theory that used in this study. Then, the research adds related previous studies that contain some research results taken from some studies

Chapter 3 is research methodology. The content of this chapter includes design of the study, setting of the research, subject of the research, object of the research, data collecting techniques and data analyzing technique.

Chapter 4 is finding. It contains frequency of incorrect punctuation marks used in writing, type of error found in using punctuation marks, and discussion.

Chapter 5 is conclusion and suggestion. It contains conclusion, suggestion and pedagogical implication.