

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background and Problems

Language is very important part of our life. It is used by human to communicate with each other. We can also use the language to express our feeling or opinion. Language will also allow us to adapt in society. Language is a part of human culture that cannot be separated from human life. Estimates number of languages in the world various, and English is one of them.

English is an international language and it is used as an international communication in term of business, politics, culture, technology, and other social activities. Because of the importance of English, in many countries, English is used as a second language. Because of this importance, in Indonesia, English is taught at some levels of school. English is taught from pre-elementary school until university level. It means English is offered at any level of schools as one of the subjects they study. In Senior High School, English is even offered for many hours a week.

The fact shows that even though they have studied English since they were in pre-elementary school, most of them cannot speak English. The problem in learning English is perhaps caused by the complexity of the English grammar. Perhaps, they do not learn the English seriously. They need a lot of practice if they want to be able to speak English well. In my observation, many students of

SMKN 2 Tegallalang were not confident with their English. They did not know much of English grammars.

Based on that condition, I am very interested in conducting a research about the errors in compositions of the students of SMKN 2 Tegallalang. This is important thing to do to know the ability of students in practicing English.

## **1.2 Scope of Discussion**

According to the problems that I have mentioned above, in this opportunity I will focus the discussion on the errors in composition made by the students of SMKN 2 Tegallalang. Based on this condition, I would like to limit my discussion. The problems that will be discussed in this paper are:

1. What Kinds of errors are found in compositions made by the students of SMKN 2 Tegallalang?
2. Why do they make errors?

## **1.3 Aims**

In writing this scientific paper, there are three aims that have to be achieved. The three aims are general aim, specific aim, and academic aim.

In general, the aim of writing this paper is to build up my knowledge of English and also to practice the theory that I have learned at the English Faculty of Letters, Warmadewa University. I hope this research can give a good contribution to SMKN 2 Tegallalang about the mastery English of the students.

In addition to the general aim, this writing also has specific aim. The specific aim is to find out the errors in the students' compositions. It would give the overview about the student's ability in practicing their English, especially about errors in students' composition. Other ways, this research would give a contribution to the English teacher of SMKN 2 Tegallalang to evaluate the teaching method to improve the student's ability in practice their English.

The academic aim of this writing is to fulfill, one of the requirements needed by the institution in studying at the English Department Faculty of Letters, Warmadewa University. I hope that this research can run well so that I can finish my study at proper time.

#### **1.4 Theoretical Basis**

As we know that an academic paper must be written on theoretical basis as guidance in making research. There are two theories that are used in this research.

First, the theory of error analysis from the book entitled *Errors Analysis, Perspectives on Second Language Acquisition* (1974) edited by Jack C Richards.

One of the statements in his book states:

“Error is the use of a linguistic items in the speech of writing of a second or foreign language learner in a way which a fluent or native speaker of the language regards as showing faulty or in complete learning”. (Richard, 1985; 95)

Second, the theory of grammar written by Randolph Quirk entitled *A Grammar of Contemporary English* (1972). In that book he states:

“In order to state general rules about the construction of sentences, it is constantly necessary to refer to smaller unit than the sentence itself.” (Quirk, 1972; 35)

Other theories are also used to support the main theories. Those theories can be seen in the page of bibliography.

### **1.5 Method of Research**

Method is a regular steps thought very well to reach a purpose. A successful research will be started with a great method. The method and technique such as; method of collecting data, method of analyzing, and method of presenting the analysis. It needs a regular step to get a good analyzing. A step is always ended with a transcription and a systematic arrangement.

Every scientific work has method in analyzing data. In this research, the method that is applied is descriptive analysis method, that is by describing and analyzing the data descriptively. It means the research is done base on the reality. The methods used in this research are as follows:

The data of this research is taken from the students' compositions of SMKN 2 Tegallalang. There is one class in that school which become object of the research. They are the class or group belonging 10<sup>th</sup> grade. In this case the data is collected through giving a writing exercise to practice their English. Firstly I asked to the head of SMKN 2 Tegallalang, I Wayan Semadi, S.Pd., for a time to meet the students in the school. After I meet the students, I gave the students introduction about kind of texts. After I finished explaining the theory, I asked

them to practice their English in Writing a paragraphs. All of their works are collected and used as a data and then analyzed their errors

In this research, a qualitative method was applied. After collecting the data and studying the theories book related to the topic which is about errors, the paragraphs were classified and analyzed descriptively. It means the research applied as a real fact. Analyzing the data, it concludes the discussion of data into the conclusion. The data are analyzed base on theory that used in this scientific paper.

The data analysis was presented in a form of words and sentences. There was no symbol and sign used to present the data. It is used a Deductive techniques in the explanation. It means the structure of explanation is the general to specific. And this presenting method is classified into informal method.