CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

Language is a means of communication within a society. In many settings, the internationally acceptable language is English. It is spoken in areas widely scattered over the globe. It is the native or official language of one fifth of the earth's land surface. As a result, a speaker of English can travel around the world and almost never find it necessary in major cities to employ a language other than his own in order to be understood (Encyclopedia Americana 1978, E p.417).

1.1. Background of the Study

In Bali, the tourists come from many countries, therefore English becomes the most understandable and practical way of communication. The vendors use it as an instrument of communication with the foreigners as their buyers. In order to be able to sell their products to the tourists, the Balinese souvenir vendors must be able to speak English or at least understand what the foreigners say to them. Generally, they speak English to attract the tourists to buy their products, albeit in less educated competence of English. In situations like this,

1

inevitably there is a contact between two languages, the native one (Balinese or Indonesian) and the target language, English. From here, some interesting phenomena appear, as they use a very simple English with an influence of their own native language.

Since the vendors have the ability to use both codes, their mother tongue Balinese or Indonesian in their daily life and English as the trade language, they are said to be bilingual. Because of their lack of knowledge, they cannot perform English as perfect as its standard, so they use the third code which is drawn from those languages. The system is called interlanguage, which is introduced by Selinker (Richards, 1974 : 29) as the intermediate stages between the native and target language observable in learners' language. In his book <u>Languages in Contact</u>, Weinreich (1953 : 7) explained further how bilingualism can make interlingual identifications in a language contact situation, such as differences identification of a phoneme in two languages, or grammatical relationship in two languages, or a semantic feature in two languages (Richards,1974 : 33).

The structure of interlanguage is different. It is not the same as that of the target language, because some elements of the native language also infiltrate. The differences between interlanguage

and target language poses as the deviation of the standard English. It can be caused by the strategy of communication, such as simplification of the target language and transfer or borrowability. Therefore, it can occur in grammar, vocabulary, pronunciation, etc, as already mentioned above. Then we refer to these "unusual" structures as ERRORS, i.e. utterances which are ungrammatical or otherwise ill-formed.

Error is the main point of the topic discussed, it is therefore better to use Error Analysis (EA) approach instead of Contrastive Analysis (CA) approach. For the reason that CA tends to emphasize only points of contrast between two language systems. While MP Jain said in his paper, the study of error source and significance based on contrastive study of the contact languages is fragmentary and inadequate. EA overlooks many errors that the learner seems to make notwithstanding his language background (Richards, 1974 : 4, 189). According to Corder (1981 : 35), the superiority of EA compared with CA, which just undertaken in order to discover and describe the differences, is that "it confirms or disproves the prediction of the theory lying behind bilingual comparison". In this sense EA is an experimental tehnique for validating a theory of

3

transfer. It can reveal the psycholinguistic process of language learning and also the strategies adopted by the learner in the process of learning. Different from CA, EA can clarify the details of errors more completely and deeply. Therefore, this research is expected to give a clear description of errors made by the Balinese souvenir vendors and factors which are responsible for those errors.

1.2. Statement of the Problem

Since the study is related to errors made by the Balinese vendors as explained in the background of the study, the research questions can be formulated as follows :

1. What gramatically deviated expressions are demons-trated by the Balinese souvenir vendors ?

2. What factors are responsible for those errors ?

1.3. Objectives of the Study

Based on the statement of the problems mentioned above, this study is intended to find out :

1. The gramatically deviated structures shown by the Balinese souvenir vendors.

2. The factors which are responsible for those errors.

4

1.4. Significance of the Study

Closely related to the reasons of finding the topic, this thesis is trying to present some contributions to the fields of sociolinguistics. The result of this study is hopefully able to find further information how English is used by the lower working class in Indonesia.

1.5. Scope and Limitation

This study was conducted on the analysis of errors in the souvenir vendors' trade language. The subjects who are chosen were a few souvenir vendors in Kuta beach whom she met by chance.

The conversations that had been recorded consist of Indonesian, English, and other languages. Since the study analyzed only the deviation in terms of grammatical errors and factors that are responsible for those errors, the writer did not explain the other kinds of deviations such as the one in pronunciation, vocabulary, or other items.

1.6. Theoretical Framework

In this study, some relevant theories were used, espescially those dealing with sociolinguistics. They are bilingualism, language contact, interference, interlanguage, and errors analysis. Those theories

5

will be discussed deeply in chapter II.

1.7. Definitions of Key Terms

Some key terms used in this thesis are defined as follows :

1. Contact Language .

   The product of multilingual situations in which those who wish to communicate must find or improve a simple code to enable them to do so.

   (Wardhaugh, 1986 : 57)

2. Bilingualism

   The ability to use two languages in interactions with other people.

   (Wardhaugh, 1986 : 1, 95)

3. Interlanguge

   A different language system from either the mother tongue or target language.

   (Selinker, in Richards ed., 1974 : 29)

4. Deviation

   A cline from minimum to full proficiency in English.

   (Richards, 1974 : 72)

5. Error

   The result of interference in the learning the second language from the habits of the first language.

   (Corder, in Richards ed. 1974 : 19)

1.8. Organization of the Thesis

This thesis consists of five chapters. Chapter I is Introduction which is divided into eight subtopics, Background of the Study, Statement of the Problems, Objectives of the Study, Significance of the Study, Scope and Limitation, Theoretical Framework, Definition of Key Terms, and the Organization of the Thesis. Chapter II is Review of Related Literature. Chapter III is the Research Methodology. Chapter IV deals with Data Analysis and Interpretation of the Findings. Chapter V deals with Conclusion.