CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

As we know, English is the most popular language in this world. Most people from different country who have different languages use English when theyspeak. Because of that, English becomes the most important language and become an international in the world. Many people learn English as their second language in order to able to communicate with other people from other countries.

In learning English, there are four language skills, speaking, listening writing, and reading. Writing might be the most difficult skill to master for some people because it needs the writer to be knowledgeable in grammar, vocabulary, and spelling. The most important component of language that has to be learned by students is grammar. Grammar helps people a lot in communication, particularly in understanding whatother people write or say.However,grammar is difficult to be learned by students. Students often find difficulty in making proper words or phrases which have correct and meaningful sentences. One of the grammatical items that arequite challenging to be mastered is articles (*a, an*, and *the*).

Articles are very important in writing. Sometimes students feel confused in the use of articles. Articles have three types *a, an,* and *the.* We can simply use "sebuah" as an article in Indonesian language but in English we cannot use it because English has different rules in using articles.

The writer opted to analyze of errors of article in the review composition written by the writing IV students because he wanted to reveal the errors that the students made. Further, the writer made use of review writing, the highest level genre in the highest English Department, to discover it students still made mistake.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

To analyze the students' ability in using articles, the writer formulates the problem as follows:

- What are the most common errors in the use of articles in the review text made by Writing IV students of the English Department of Widya Mandala Catholic University?

- What are the possible causes of those errors that students made in the Writing IV class of English Department of Widya Mandala Catholic University in their review text?

1.3 Objectives of the Study

In accordance with the background of the study, this study is intended to find out:

- the most common errors of the usage of articles in the review text made by Writing IV Students of the English Department of Widya Mandala Catholic University.

- the possible causes of error that students made in the Writing IV class of English Department of Widya Mandala Catholic University in their review text.

1.4   The Significance of the study

Bothe the teachers and students will receive benefits from the result of this study. For the teachers, they are able to know the article errors that students made the most and it can be an input for the teaching and learning process. Teachers can teach the articles to the students to avoid any further misunderstanding.

For the students they can understand about errors that they have committed from the teachers. They can learn from their result of their study that has been given the correction from their teacher. They can also improve their ability in using article in their writing composition. Students can anticipate making the errors that they have made by themselves and avoid making similar ones.

1.5   Theoretical Framework

The theoretical framework used the study is error analysis. According to Brown (1980), Error analysis is a technique for identifying, classifying, and systematically interpreting the unacceptable forms produced by someone learning a foreign language.

Douglas Brown also classifies errors in to four categories; errors of addition, errors of omission, errors substitutions, and errors of misordering.

Richards(1971 as cited byEllis, 1994) distinguishes three sources of competence errors: interference errors, intralingual errors and developmental errors. But the writer here did not analyze the developmental errors because the major problems of the source of errors only in the interference error and interlingual errors.

Richards (1971) classifies intralingual errors into four categories: overgeneralization, ignorance of the rule restrictions, incomplete application of rules, and Teacher Training and Education in Widya Mandala Catholic University Surabaya.

Writing IV students were hoped to learn from the mistakes as one of the ways to improve their grammatical skills especially in the articles.

Further, the writing IV lecturers are expected able to adjust their method of teaching by giving feedbacks and applying training and peer-review approaches to make the students understand the article well and later they will be able to overcome these weaknesses and write review writing well.

1.6   Limitation and Scope

The topic of the research was limited by the writer. The writerfocused on the errors of articles (*a, an,* and *the*) in the review composition of students who were taking Writing IV. The writer was not focusing on the grammatical rules.

The writer chose the fourth semester students of the English Department of Widya Mandala Catholic University and conducted a study on their knowledge of articles in review writings. The writer took the students of Writing IV class as the subject because in Writing IV class, they were in the highest level of writing. The students who took Writing IV class should not make any mistakes in article.

The writer took the final-term test in order to get the best writing the Writing IV students made since they had done a lot of practices before the final-term test on making review text.

1.7 Definition of Key Terms

1. Writing

    Writing is the process of using symbols (letters of using alphabet, punctuation and space) to communicate thoughts and ideas in a readable form.

2. Review text

    A review is an evaluation of a publication, product, service, or company such as a movie (a movie review), video game, musical composition (music review of a composition or recording), book (book review); a piece of hardware like a car, home appliance, or computer; or an event or performance, such as a live music concert, play, musical theater show, or dance show. Review's purpose is to criticize or evaluate an art work or event for a public audience.

3. Article

    An article is a word used to modify a noun, which is a person, place, object or idea. Technically, an article is an adjective, which is any word that modifies a noun. Usually adjectives modify nouns through description, but articles are used instead to point out or refer to nouns. There are two different types of articles that we use in writing and conversation to point out or refer to a noun or group of nouns: definite and indefinite articles.

4. Error analysis

Error Analysis is the study of learner errors, providing the way to examine learner language, being a part of language teaching, finding out whethererrors were caused by L1 interference.

Error Analysis studies can be divided into five processes: collection of asample of learner language, identification, description, explanation, and evaluation oferrors (Ellis, 1997).

1.8   Organization of the Thesis

There are five chapters in this study. Chapter 1 consists of background of the study, statement of problem, objective of the study, theoretical framework, and assumptions of the study, the significance of the study, limitation and scope, definition of key terms and organization of the study. Chapter 2 coversthe review of literature. This chapter focuses on the grammar, article, errors, mistake, review and the previous study related with the writer's topic. Chapter 3 discusses about research method and focuses on the design, type of research, data source, subject, instrument, treatment and data analysis. Chapter 4 presents the data analysis and interpretation of the findings. The last chapter, chapter 5, contains conclusion and suggestion.