

CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Problems

Grammar is needed even in communication, in talking about grammar, Grammar is an aspect of the language component that is learned and mastered by students who learn and use language, such as English. Grammar is one of the important language components that make language understandable by language users both in oral and written form. Wignell (as cited in Siswoyo, 2016, p. 463) states that grammar is a theory of language, about how language works and how language is put together.

Brown (2001, p. 34) also states that grammatical competence as a major component of communication has an important position which is considered to be the most difficult skill to learn for students. In the form of words, language learners or writers must combine and connect several parts of grammar, such as subjects, adverbs, articles, auxiliary verbs, objects, adjectives, verbs, conjunctions and so on. One component of grammar that is learned and mastered by students as English learners is tense.

In English language has sixteen different tenses. In New Grolier Webster (as cited in Pereira, 2017, p. 122), these sixteen tenses are different to one another. The differences happen in the forms of the used verbs and time of verbs action takes place. In other words, it can be said that an English verb will be very dependent of its usage. However, this research focusing on the simple present tense as one of the forms of sixteen tenses. English has a great variety of tenses;

the students should learn the tenses to support their language skills. Tense means time, so the tense helps to indicate the time of an action condition.

In addition, another statement from Heffernan and Wishon (as cited in Andreas, 2017, p. 123) states that the time of our action or state is often indicated by a word or phrase like tomorrow, next week or last week, but tenses is not the same as time, tenses is verb form shows the time of the action, present/past/future. This is different from Indonesian because there are no tenses and no special verbs that change in sentences. Tenses are different form of verb and change their forms depending upon the time at the event. Tenses are the verb shows the time when the action takes place, took place, and will take place in English sentence.

The simple present tense is one of the basic types of tenses that must be easy to understand before understanding other tenses. According to Pardiyono (as quoted in Handoko, 2018, p. 204) "simple present tense is often used to discuss things that now exist or are happening, there are things that are usual or usual, or are usually done". Simple Present Tense is one of the important tenses to be mastered by students. By mastering the simple present tense, students will be able to express the ideas they want to transfer appropriately at the present moment. The simple present tense is a verb form to express facts, habits, or current events. Wrong perception about simple present tense will affect students' ability to compose or understand simple present tense sentences.

Simple present tense is one of the tenses in English grammar that is usually used by English users both in speaking and writing. In SMK Negeri 2 Kotabumi tense learning especially simple present tense is not taught separately, but it is included in writing sentences or text and understanding the meaning in the

English text itself. The material of simple present tense is not separate in learning English because it is attached to material such as descriptive texts and others.

Based on observations students in SMK Negeri 2 Kotabumi on Monday, February 24th 2020 the facts one class from tenth grade there was a class of marketing in learning English which has a low ability, especially in simple present material which is the basic material that must be known by students, in the class teacher teaches simple present tense by giving notes on the board, giving a few examples, and then asking students to take notes. After that the students are only given a limited amount of time to do some exercises. Here students easily get bored because there are no interesting activities involved in the learning process. In addition, students often think that learning simple present tense is difficult. This assumption makes students afraid and not motivated to learn. As a result, most students are afraid to ask teacher what they do not understand.

This is also supported by the results of interview with English teacher in SMK Negeri 2 Kotabumi especially tenth grade on stated that students in the class did not really understand English learning, and also from observations conducted by the researcher that English teachers tend to teach grammar deductively.

Learning the simple present tense in class is very important because the simple present tense is one of the basic tenses in English. According to Hestingsih (2016, p. 211) states that "mastery of the grammar of the simple present tense is the knowledge and ability to use the grammatical structure of the simple present tense and use it effectively in communication". Simple present tense is one type of tenses that must be mastered and used to write or speak in English. and added that according to Yashima, Zenuk-Nishide, & Shimizu in

Susanti (2019, p.56) it means that they have to do more practice to expose the language. In understanding the simple present tense students can expose students' learning abilities. This is important because the simple present tense usually occurs in speaking or writing activities.

Difficulties in understanding this simple present tense will affect the motivation and achievement of English language learning itself, if left unchecked it will greatly obstruct students and may make students uninterested in English itself because it is indeed in reality at SMK Negeri 2 Kotabumi, interest in English itself is low. This research is important to be done, so the researcher is interested in conducting the research entitle “An Analysis of Students’ Difficulties in Understanding Simple Present Tense at the Tenth Grade Marketing of SMK Negeri 2 Kotabumi Academic Year 2020/2021”.

1.2 Focuses of the Research

Based on background of the problem research is focuses of the research are:

1. To describe the kinds of Students’ Difficulties in Understanding Simple Present Tense at the Tenth Grade Marketing of SMK Negeri 2 Kotabumi Academic Year 2020/2021.
2. To describe the most dominant kind of Students’ Difficulties in Understanding Simple Present Tense at the Tenth Grade Marketing of SMK Negeri 2 Kotabumi Academic Year 2020/2021.

1.3 Formulation of the Problems

In the line with focus of the problem, the research problem is formulated in the following questions:

1. What are the kinds of Students' Difficulties in Understanding Simple Present Tense at the Tenth Grade Marketing of SMK Negeri 2 Kotabumi Academic Year 2020/2021?
2. What is the most dominant kind of Students' Difficulties in Understanding Simple Present Tense at the Tenth Grade Marketing of SMK Negeri 2 Kotabumi Academic Year 2020/2021?

1.4 Objectives of the Research

The objectives are based on the formulation of problems are to investigate:

1. To describe the kinds of Students' Difficulties in Understanding Simple Present Tense at the Tenth Grade Marketing of SMK Negeri 2 Kotabumi Academic Year 2020/2021.
2. To describe the most dominant kind of Students' Difficulties in Understanding Simple Present Tense at the Tenth Grade Marketing of SMK Negeri 2 Kotabumi Academic Year 2020/2021.

1.5 Uses of the Research

The result of this research is expected to be useful for:

1. Teachers: The result of this research is hoped to give information for English teacher about the causes students grammar especially simple present tense for student to learn English so that the English teacher can help to maintain or

improve an anticipate and refine lesson plan and teaching method in order that they can achieve high achievement in English.

2. Students: This Research can be one solution to solve problem students in learn English especially simple present tense material.
3. Next Researchers: This researcher could be used as an additional reference for other researchers who want to conduct the research with the similar problem.