

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter mainly designates the introduction of this study. There are seven parts of discussion as sub-titles seemed in this chapter called: background of the study, statements of problem, objectives of the study, significances of the study, scope and limitation of the study, assumption of the study and operational definition.

1.1 Background of the Study

Writing might be said as an activity of putting ideas or thoughts into written form. In line with Eric & Helen (1996, p.2), “The accuracy of using language and the effective organization are two important factors to be understood in order to make a good writing”. It means that, in the process of expressing ideas into a written form, it is not simple process because it requires mastery not only grammatical but also conceptual understanding especially in English language. Writing needs various skills for instance the ability to write, to create, to explore the ideas into correct and appropriate sentences which are needed in order to make a good writing, for instance, in English. In line with Barber (2009), English as a foreign language in Indonesia, is known as one of the subjects in education fields applied in every level of education and becomes essential subject in junior high school to senior high school and also in the university level. It becomes important to be learnt regarding English is one of major world languages (p.239).

By using written form, students can communicate through the words or written language being used. But it is difficult because Indonesian students learn English as a foreign language (Novalia, 2018, p.2). Among the four English skills namely: listening, reading, speaking and writing, the writing skill is mostly considered as the difficult task for some college students, for instance, as it burdens them to be more thinking and carefulness for language processing. Some difficulties may be caused either by lack of experience and writing practice or insufficient language knowledge such as grammar and vocabulary (Ratmo, 2014, p.3). In higher education or universities, especially for English department students, writing is an important skill that every student should be able to deal with in order to be successful in preparing weather their assignments or their final project. Thus, it is unavoidable that the papers should be free from spelling and grammar errors.

The primary purpose for giving students writing tasks is writing for writing which means allowing students to develop their skills to be good writers. In line with (Harmer, 2007, p.112) “The main purpose for activities of writing for writing is that students should become better at writing, anything kind of writing that might be”. In writing, students should be engaged at developing their skills in order to produce well-organized writings such as reports, essay writings and research papers. Error is ungrammatical utterance refers to the language performance (Harmer, 2007). As a result, students might have error in doing their works.

Writing skill is considered as the difficult skill in English language related to the grammar (Novalia, 2018). As the most difficult skill among other English skills, the students should be able to master grammar regarding grammar becomes the essential element of writing to be considered. Students might find many problems to arrange the sentences through their writings without proper understanding of grammar. It can be said that grammar is essential part to be learnt among students in the process of acquiring an English language. Furthermore, grammar is the basic of the language that influences the meaning of context being applied. Concerning to the grammar item, there are sub-fields being involved, such as: tenses, part of speech, types of sentences, conjunctions, and so forth. Conjunction, such as subordinating conjunctions, plays a significant role in communication, either in written or spoken, which acts as a link or connector between the clauses and also chains a set of grammatical functions into larger grammatical units (Pratiwi, 2018, p.1).

Conjunction is considered as one of the items within grammar which means that it is known as word function to link words, phrases, and clauses in the sentences (Novalia, 2018, p.4). In this study, the researcher mainly focuses on the discussion of conjunction called subordinate conjunction. It is as one of the types of conjunctions mostly used in English language. It means the function of subordinating conjunction can be distinguishable become some classes which have a meaning if the conjunction joins with words, sentences, clauses, and phrases.

This study was conducted on the error analysis on the students' essay writing at STKIP PGRI Sidoarjo. This area holds important thing to English lecturers and students in providing learning feedback along with the learning complexity in writing. According to Syarfuni (2013, p.7) "Error analysis is defined as a type of linguistic field focusing on the errors made by the students that contains of comparison between the errors made in the target language and within that target language itself". Moreover, it is stated that the aims of error analysis can be defined into two objects namely: (1) theoretical object which is to understand what and how a learner learns when he/she studies and (2) applied object which means the way to enable the learner to develop her/his knowledge more efficiently for pedagogical purposes. Thus, it can be assumed that investigating of error analysis through the students' work is essential research as its aims.

Furthermore, students' essay writing is known as a piece of paper of writing explaining what a term or a concept means (Syarfuni, 2013, p.8). It is a highly complex of writing to be understood to fulfill all of the formalities which focuses on composing and developing logical ideas within the works. Thus, the students might have difficulties in their essay writing and making errors are unavoidable part in order to make a good writing such in in the use of subordinating conjunction as the main discussion of the study. Based on the explanations above, the researcher conducted a study entitled: "*Error Analysis on the Use of Subordinating Conjunction Found in the Students' Essay Writing at STKIP PGRI SIDOARJO*".

1.2 Statements of the Problem

The researcher formulates the research questions in this study consisting:

- 1.2.1 What are the types of errors in the use of subordinating conjunctions in the students' essay writing based on the Surface Strategy Taxonomy at STKIP PGRI Sidoarjo?
- 1.2.2 What is the most committed error made by the students at STKIP PGRI Sidoarjo in using subordinating conjunctions based on the Surface Strategy Taxonomy?

1.3 Objectives of the Study

Based on the statement of the problem, the researcher has two objectives of the study as follows:

- 1.3.1 To describe the types of errors in the use of subordinating conjunctions in the students writing based on the Surface Strategy Taxonomy at STKIP PGRI Sidoarjo.
- 1.3.2 To describe the most committed error made by the students at STKIP PGRI Sidoarjo in using subordinating conjunctions based on the Surface Strategy Taxonomy.

1.4 Significance of the Study

This study is conducted with the main purpose that this research will give contributions to all of the readers as follows:

1.4.1 Teachers

The result of this research will give additional information to the teachers about how interesting and important in error analysis of the use of subordinating conjunctions through the students' writing.

1.4.2 Students

The students will recognize and understand more about not only how to analyze the use of subordinating conjunction but also how interesting activity of the writing is. Thus, they have clear information about conjunctions and their functions.

1.4.3 Other Researchers

The result of this study can be as one of references for further research of the same field in order to get more worthy contributions to develop the subordinating conjunction studies.

1.5 Scope and Limitation

There are some types of conjunctions in English language. In this study, the scope of this study is limited on types of error in the use of subordinating conjunctions in their writings made by the second semester students containing morning class and evening class at STKIP PGRI Sidoarjo. This is due to the fact that the study of subordinating conjunction in the students' writing has not been conducted yet.

1.6 Assumption of the Study

This research is conducted under the assumption that there are a lot of errors made by the students at STKIP PGRI Sidoarjo through their writings. As a result, it is essential to conduct this kind of study.

1.7 Operational Definition

In order to avoid s meanings about the terms in this study, there are some important terms that need to be clarified as follows:

- 1.7.1 An error is an action which is inaccurate or incorrect.
- 1.7.2 Analysis is detailed examination of the elements or structure of something.
- 1.7.3 Error analysis is type of linguistics study concerning to the errors made by students within their works.
- 1.7.4 Subordinating conjunction is a word that connects an independent clause to a dependent clause.
- 1.7.5 Essay writing is a form of essay as the assignment given by the lecturer on the form of paper which conveys meaning trough well-constructed text.