

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### **A. The Background of the Research**

Language is the ability of humans to interact and communicate with other humans. Language is used by humans to convey the intentions, messages, and ideas. It used to communicate both in written and spoken form. According to Chaer and Agustina (2010, p. 11), the main function of language is as a tool communication or interaction that is only owned by humans. Without language, people will not be able to interact or relate to other human beings. Language itself has characters with different types, depending on his or her residence. Nevertheless, judging from its functional all same language namely as a means of communication or interaction.

There are so many international languages used to communicate or become a secondary language. English is used widely by almost all countries in the world. English is the language of diplomacy and international communications, business, tourism, science, computer technology, media, internet, and education fields as well. It becomes one of essential means to communicate and to express idea among people from different countries. Some of advantages of learning English are: can keep up with the times, increase knowledge, and be accepted easily in the eyes of the world. English has become a proponent element for us to socialize with foreigners considering the development of the world is growing rapidly.

In Indonesia, English has been subject from elementary school to high school. Even it becomes its own department for universities. English is an important role in school to communicate with local or foreign guest directly. That is why English is very important for Indonesian people.

Indonesian people take English as a foreign language. They are learning English to communicate in two forms, in spoken and written forms. That's why Indonesian people find it difficult to learn and understand English. If someone wants to learn English very well, he should know four basic aspects, such as: reading, writing, listening, and speaking. All of them cannot be separated. Indonesia is one of the countries whose people learn English because it gives many advantages in many fields, especially in the business and education world. It is important for Indonesian people to develop their human resource so that they can compete with other countries in the world.

Speaking is probably the one that most language learners want it to be perfect. It means this skill has an important thing. Mastering this skill shows that he has successfully learned the target language. If the learners are successful, it can be seen from their ability to use language productively and from their achievement or the result of the learning.

According to Brown (2000, p. 140), speaking is a productive skill that can be directly and empirically observed. Speaking is an interactive process of constructing meaning that involves producing, receiving, and processing information. It means that in speaking we have to express our opinions, ideas, and feelings correctly so that someone can understand the message. Speaking

is also one of the language skills that should be acquired by human being after he understands the meaning of words in a language which he uses. In addition, speaking as one of the important skill has to be used directly when there are some persons meet the others. So, speaking involves responding to what has been heard.

Speaking requires more than just producing words or any sounds. Because random words cannot convey any fix meaning. An idea could be deliver only by using clear sentence, even only a simple sentence. The speaker needs not only to know what the vocabulary which should be said but also to combined the words into a good sentence in purpose his idea can be understood.

In English, complex and long speaking learning, involves simultaneously using a number of different abilities which often develops at different rates such as pronunciation, vocabulary, and grammar. Speaking is a complex skill among the other three skills in English. No doubt that many students get difficulties in learning speaking, moreover to practice it. On the other hand, actually to get successful in learning speaking, students should be at the situation in which they are willing to speak in English. Besides, students also should have strength from inside to speak up. In other words, many factors affect students in learning speaking.

In speaking, students should master several speaking components, such as pronunciation, grammar, vocabulary, and fluency. It means that grammar is one of the important components that should be mastered by the students. In addition, grammar is essential as the rules of word to make the sentences

meaningful. Based on that statement, grammar should be mastered by students to speak well.

Grammar is not the most important thing in the world but if the people make a lot of mistakes they may be more difficult to understand and some kinds of people may look down on her/him or not take it seriously. Hardly anybody speaks or writes a foreign language perfectly, but you will communicate more successfully if you can make your English reasonably correct.

Grammar is an English subject that is quite difficult to learn without consistent effort and practice. The point is, grammar is the science of structuring words that must be learned in order to master all four English skills; speaking, reading, writing, and listening appropriately. If anyone asks whether learning grammar is important, of course we know that the influence of grammar includes all four English skills.

Communication using proper grammar helps students communicate smoothly. Grammatical rules have been taught to enable the students to deal with using good form of sentence structure. With the right grammar, students can communicate with more confidence and freely express their ideas. Students with poor grammar may make them not confident in speaking so that they do not practice much English speaking which makes them increasingly unable to speak English. For students or even adults, it is difficult to use English with the correct grammar when speaking.

In this case, the ability of grammar is very important. It can help speaker to speak accurately. If the conversation is full of grammatical errors, the ideas will not get across easily because different structure may causes different meaning. In summary, a good ability of grammar can help learners to speak better.

One of the important aspects in grammar is tenses. Verb tense refers to the time verb expression. It is important to master verb tense in writing and speaking English process. Without having knowledge about tenses they will not be able to write or speak well.

Many students find that tenses are far more difficult, than, say, vocabulary. Despite their best efforts, students consistently experience misunderstanding and misapply tenses. Some of this miss-learning is probably inevitable. Students of foreign language have a great many things to remember at once, and mistakes are almost bound to occur, especially where the mother tongue leads the learner to expect something else. Ways in which this may happen will be discussed later, under the individual tenses.

Verb tenses are more difficult, because the concept boundaries are less easily visible. The difference between *I eat* and *I am eating* is a good deal problematic; and much of the problem arises because English native speakers believe that there is a distinction, while the speakers of other languages believe that there is none.

Problems with verb tenses also arise because many teachers assume that all cultures share the same attitudes and concepts of the relationship between

time and tense. It is important to recognize, however, that other cultures and therefore other languages may conceptualize time in a completely different way.

In communication, when the students try to speak, the teachers sometimes let their students put the grammar aside to make their students feel comfortable with the language. But it does not mean that they justify the mistake or the error. It is just one way to motivate them to speak and to make them love English. This condition causes the students do not use the language carefully especially for grammatical structure. Because the first thing that should be considered the self-confidence to speak of learners. Most of the students cannot speak English because of some factors such as shyness, less confidence, limited vocabulary, or lack of the knowledge. They are afraid of making mistakes.

In other side, it is not expected if the errors that students made become a habit. So it should be improvement. Many methods, strategies and facilities are found to solve the problem. The students should improve their attitude to learning language rules of English including aspect of grammar; tenses. Studying tenses will certainly help students to speak more accurately.

In this study the writer wants to know the correlation between student's ability of tenses and speaking. The understanding and mastering tenses, as the first grammar they learn, know, and use, can help the students to speak English correctly. It is interested to know the relation of tenses mastery and speaking skill. For tenses mastery is a concrete theory and tending to writing

skill than to speaking. Meanwhile, speaking is practical skill which is influenced by speaker's attitude, habit and other abstract factors.

For this reason the writer is interested in expressing more deeply a research entitled The Correlation between Tenses Mastery and Speaking Ability of X grade accounting program students in Strada Budi Luhur Vocational School.

## **B. Question and Scope of the Research**

### **1. Question of the Research**

The following is to be formulized "Is there any significant correlation between tenses mastery and speaking ability for X grade accounting program students in Strada Budi Luhur Vocational School?"

### **2. Scope of the Research**

This research focus to two aspects; they are tenses mastery and speaking ability for X grade accounting program students in Strada Budi Luhur Vocational School. For tenses mastery, the writer concerned just three kinds of tenses; *past tense*, *present tense*, and *future tense*.

## **C. Research Hypothesis**

In correlation with background and problem above, the writer found some hypothesis. The writer specifies them in the following items:

1. There are no significant correlation between tenses mastery and speaking ability for X grade accounting program students in Strada Budi Luhur Vocational School. (Ho).
2. There are any significant correlation between tenses mastery and speaking ability for X grade accounting program students in Strada Budi Luhur Vocational School. (Ha).

#### **D. The Objective and Significance of the Research**

1. The objective of the research

The objective of the research is to know whether there is a significant relationship between tenses mastery and speaking ability for X grade accounting program students in Strada Budi Luhur Vocational School. Also to know the advantages of this paper for the writer and also give the useful information for everyone who reads it especially for students of STBA JIA.

2. The Significance of the Research

The writer hopes in this research paper can be useful not only for the writer herself but also for the readers mainly who learn English. The significance of the writing is described below:

- a. For the writer

The writer hopes this research get more knowledge and insight in English and knowledge about the correlation between grammar mastery and speaking ability.



b. For the students

There are many benefits and advantages that the students have much more knowledge about English.

c. For the readers

The writer hopes this paper can help to give the reader a reference and inspiration to learn English and the writer also hopes the readers can get information about English.

### **E. Method of the Research**

The writer used quantitative research. Aliaga and Gunderson (2002) said, quantitative research is explaining phenomena by collecting numerical data that are analyzed using mathematically based methods (in Muijs, 2004, p. 1). Muijs also said that quantitative research is based on numerical data analyzed statistically. It is important to use the right data analysis tools, it is even more important to use the right research design and data collection instruments. However, the use of statistics to analyze the data is the element that puts a lot of people off doing quantitative research, because the mathematics underlying the methods seem complicated and frightening.

To get data needed, the writer curtailed the population and the sample from the population. The population in this research was all students who were X grade students in Strada Budi Luhur Vocational School. The sample of this research was taken from 10<sup>th</sup> grade who were majoring Accountancy at Strada

Budi Luhur Vocational School. Then, the writer prepared tenses test and speaking test. The instruments of the writer used to collect the data were tenses mastery test and speaking ability test. After that, the writer tried out those tests and then analyzed the result. Then, the writer administrated both the tenses and speaking tests.

The writer evaluated and scored the test. The writer analyzed the data from the instruments by using Bivariate Correlation. After that, the writer discussed and reported the result of the data analysis and the last she made some conclusions.

## **F. Operational Definition**

The significances of the research are:

### **1. Tenses Mastery**

When we learn grammar, the tenses will be automatically correlated. Tense means time. However, it should be pointed out that time in relation to action is a concept that exists in the mind of the speaker, reader, or listener. Tense is also a particular form of a verb indicating the time of an action or a state. It is also a grammatical category that locates a situation in time that indicates the situation takes place. To have a good ability in speaking, the students should be master the tenses as well.

Mastery is a person's ability to organize skills and knowledge of some subject or activity. If tenses and mastery are combined, it means the act of organizing a great skill or mastering a great skillfulness of tenses.

## 2. Speaking Ability

Speaking is an articulation of sound to express thought. Speaking is the activity to express thought and feeling orally. Another expert, Tarigan (2015) says that speaking is a language skill that develops in a person's life, which is preceded by listening skills and the ability to speak. (p. 3)

Ability is the skills and qualities which make it possible to achieve a goal. Ability is a potential capacity of power to do something physically or mentally.

If both speaking and ability are combined, so it means capability to utter the articulation of sound to express or to deliver thought, idea, or feeling to the other person.

## **G. The Systematic of the Research**

Chapter I provide exploration about background of the research, scope and question of the research, the objective of the research, the significance of the research, and the systematic of the paper.

Chapter II explains about the theoretical of the paper starts from learning grammar to speaking ability. This chapter will also completed by the conceptual of framework of each theory.

Chapter III clarifies about the time and place of the research, the population and the sample, the method of the research, variables, instruments,

the technique of the data analysis, the procedure of the research, and the hypothesis submission.

Chapter IV presents about the data description, the data analysis, the data interpretation, the discussion and the implication.

Chapter V explains about the summary based on the previous chapter and gives some suggestion for the next development in the future.