

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### A. Background of the Study

Language is a complicated business. In everyday talk, we use the word ‘language’ in many different ways. It is not clear how ‘language’ should be defined or what the person on the street thinks it actually is. We talk about how miraculously a child’s ‘language’ is developing but how they make charming ‘grammar mistakes’, like ‘*me maden*’ that instead of ‘*I made that*’. Here, language is an ability that is blossoming in the child.<sup>1</sup>

In English, there are several skills and components which must be learned, they are listening, speaking, reading, writing, vocabulary, pronunciation, and structure. They cannot be separated each other. To master English, we have to learn all of contents contained in English itself.

In learning English, we are not able to deny that we must also learn English essay, paragraph, sentence, phrase, and word. If we learn English essay, we have to know definition of English essay and the correct rules of arranging essay. The correct essay includes some good paragraphs. The good paragraph should be started by some good sentences. To arrange the correct and meaningful sentence, we have to understand the sentence pattern or tense. The correct and meaningful sentence also includes some phrases to make the sentence right. In English, there are five phrases which are found in sentence. They are noun phrase, verb phrase, adjective phrase, preposition phrase, and adverb phrase. For examples “the man gives them a ball”. If we analyze that sentence, we could find some phrases, they are noun phrase (the man), verb phrase (give them a ball), and in that verb phrase, there are two noun phrases, “them” and “a ball”.

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<sup>1</sup> William Downes, *Linguistics and Sociolinguistics*(2<sup>nd</sup> edition), USA: Cambridge University Press, p. 1.

Learning a language involves many things such as vocabulary, grammar and skills. Each of the above elements is very important. To improve the skills, learners have to base on vocabulary and grammar. And among those, noun phrase (NP) is very significant because it is the basic component to form a meaningful sentence.<sup>2</sup>

Noun phrase is very important to learn. As we know, based on the paragraph above, noun phrase is the basic component to form a meaningful sentence. In this case, the researcher is interested to take noun phrase as the problem of the researcher's study. In this study, the researcher takes "Developing Noun Phrase Worksheet for the Second Semester Students of IAIN of Palangka Raya" as the title.

A noun phrase is a phrase which has a noun (or indefinite pronoun) as its head word, or which performs the same grammatical function as such a phrase. Noun phrases are very common cross-linguistically, and they may be the most frequently occurring phrase type.

Noun phrases often have function as verb subjects and objects, as predicative expressions, and as the complements of prepositions or postpositions. Noun phrases can be embedded inside each other; for instance, some of its constituents contain the shorter noun phrase of the constituents.

Here the example of the problem that one of the students of IAIN made in arranging noun phrase. The title is "my cat". *"I have my beloved cat. They are name's Anggara and Aggiri. One day, they are getting sick. Then, I am bringing them to animal doctor for check up their health. Suddenly, when they were checking their health, they were scream because was injection by animal doctor on their legs. What's a pity they are, but they are good knowing their illness. Right now, they are better.*

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<sup>2</sup>Ngo Tran Khanh Nhu, *The Structure of English and Vietnamese Noun Phrase*, Ho Chi Minh City University Press, 2009, p. 2.

The reason why this problem was taken as the title of this research was to solve the problems above by providing the appropriate worksheet draft of noun phrase agreement for the students based on the needs. The other reason, the book used by the lecturers and the students in studying noun phrase was analyzed. In analyzing the book, the topic about noun phrase was not completely discussed in detail. Also, the students should have many references in learning the noun phrase.

The second semester students of the State Islamic Institute of Palangka Raya are chosen as the subject of the study.

## **B. Research Problem**

The problems of this research are:

1. What do the students need about the noun phrase worksheet?
2. What do the lecturers need about the noun phrase worksheet?
3. How is the type of worksheet the students and the lecturers needed?

## **C. Objective of the Study**

Based on the problems above, the objectives of this study are:

1. To provide the noun phrase worksheet based on the students' need.
2. To provide the noun phrase worksheet based on the lecturers' need.
3. To provide the appropriate noun phrase worksheet based on the students and lecturers' need.

## **D. Significance of the Study**

The result of this study mainly has two significances namely theoretically and practically. Theoretically, the result of this research will be able to contribute to support the theories about noun phrase by providing the worksheet draft which will be developed in teaching grammar for the lecturer. By using the noun phrase worksheet, the students will be easier to comprehend the noun phrase.

Practically, the result of this study is the noun phrase worksheet will be developed by the lecturer for second semester students of IAIN of Palangka Raya in learning noun phrase. The noun phrase worksheet draft which will be developed, as the result of this study, will be able to improve the students' competence in learning grammar especially noun phrase. This study can also be useful for the next researchers who will conduct research the similar topic with this research.

#### **E. Scope and Limitation of the Study**

Based the problems found in the previous observation, there are many errors in arranging noun phrases made by the students. For that, this study only emphasizes in developing noun phrase worksheet by providing the worksheet draft based on the needs to the second semester students of IAIN of Palangka Raya. For the next steps, the further researchers will continue this study in developing the worksheet of noun phrase. The students that are in this research are three of all classes of the second semester.

#### **F. Definition of Key Terms**

##### 1. Noun Phrase:

- a. Jespersen defined it as a combination of words put together in order to form a sense unit.<sup>3</sup>
- b. Kruisinga distinguishes "syntactic groups" as a combination of words which are part of a sentence.<sup>4</sup>
- c. Hockett refers to composite forms which are hierarchically organised.<sup>5</sup>

##### 2. Worksheet

Worksheet is a piece of paper that contains printed exercises and problems to be done by a student.

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<sup>3</sup>Iria Pastor Gómez, *Nominal Modifiers in Noun Phrase (Structure: Evidence from Contemporary English)*, Universidade De Santiago De Compostela Facultade De Filoloxía Departamento De Filoloxía Inglesa, 2009, p. 6.

<sup>4</sup>*Ibid*, p. 6.

<sup>5</sup>*Ibid*, p. 6.

### 3. Research and Development

The research and development can be defined as research activity started by research and continued by development. This research activity is done to gain information about needs assessment, meanwhile this development activity is done to produce learning sets of equipment.<sup>6</sup>

#### **G. Framework of the Study**

- Chapter I : Introduction which consisted of background of the study, research problem, objective of the study, significance of the study, scope and limitation of the study, definition of key terms, and framework of the study.
- Chapter II : Review of related literatures which consisted of previous study and theories related to the problem of the study.
- Chapter III : Methodology which consisted of the data, instrument, subject of the study, research methodology, and validity of the study.
- Chapter IV : Result of the study which consisted of result of data, students' responses related to the worksheet, the lecturers' responses related to the worksheet, and result of interview data
- Chapter V : Discussion which consisted of the type of the worksheet that the lecturers and the students needed.
- Chapter VI : Closing which consisted of conclusion and suggestion.

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<sup>6</sup>Iis Prasetyo, Teknik Analisis Data Dalam Research and Development, Yogyakarta: Universitas Yogyakarta, p. 1.