

CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

English is very important language for us because English is an international language. Some countries use English as their national language and some countries more using English as their second language, but in Indonesia, English still as foreign language. As one of languages that have been created by human, English occupies the first position of the international languages. By mastering English students are also expected to be able to communicate and to interact with other people from different countries.

There are four skills that have to be developed in English teaching learning process, they are reading, listening, speaking, and writing. In developing these four skills, the knowledge of grammar is very essential. Grammar is one of requirements that have to be learned by the students in developing these four skills of the English language. It can be learn by reading and comprehending English grammar books.

English grammar has many subject, they are; Verb tenses, modal auxiliaries and similar expressions, the passive, gerunds and infinitives, singular and plural, adjective clauses, noun clauses, conditional sentence and etcetera.

In English, word can be divided to be some classes following the function and the action that they do in a sentence. This class called part of

speech. The eight parts of speech are; noun, adjective, pronoun, verb, adverb, preposition, conjunction and interjection.¹

(Noun is a word used to name a person, place, animal, thing, characteristic, idea or action. Noun is a word used to name a person, animal, thing, place, such as Charles, Prince, boy, stranger, rose, sun, Jakarta, city, courage and soon).² A noun is a word that names a person, place, thing, state or action.³

There are two instances of language arts word endings in which the letter-s/-es is added to the spelling of root words:

1. We add the suffix s to *nouns* when we wish to indicate more than one of something (spelling rules for plural form of words), and
2. We add the suffix s to *verbs* so that they will agree with the subject of the sentence (spelling rules for subject/verb agreement).

Plural noun ending with letter -s is a form of noun which indicates person or things in more than one unit. For example; *the students attend the meeting*, the sentence defines that *more than one student* attend the meeting. In this case, of course the letter “s” in the “students” words is plural. Moreover if the noun was ended by “es” that is of course plural. For examples: “glasses”, “classes”, “boxes”, “gases”, “kisses”, “buses” and so on.

Plural noun ending by letter “es” easier to known than plural noun ending by letter “s” because if we found a noun ending with letter “es” of

¹Hotben D. Lingga, and Lim Ali Utomo, *Inti Sari Tata Bahasa Inggris Kontemporer*, Jakarta: Kesaintblanc, 2004, p.2.

²*Ibid.*, p.3.

³Kam Chuan Aik and Kam Kai Hui, *Dictionary of Grammar and Usage*, Singapore: Addison Wesley Longman, 1999, p.138.

course that is plural but if we found a noun ending with letter “s” that is not sure plural, can be plural, possessive or subject/verb agreement (third person verb) and can be singular.

According to Crystal that grammar is the structure foundational of our ability to express ourselves, the more we are aware of how it works, the more we can monitor the meaning and effectiveness of the way and other use language. It can help foster precision, detect ambiguity, and exploit the richness of expression available in English and it can help everyone not only teacher of English, but teacher of anything, for all teaching is ultimately a matter of getting to grips with meaning.⁴

Based on explanation above grammar is very important aspect in the language learning process and mastering grammar is needed to support every language skill.

From the statements above, the writer have one object that the writer got. The problems in using letter –s/es become a main focus to investigate in this study since there are many students do not understand well about the plural noun, especially in using letter –s/es in the end of word or do not use letter –s/es in the end of the word. The writer would like to propose a study entitled: **”The Students’ Problems in the use of The Plural Nouns in Tenth Class of SMKYP SEI Palangka Raya”**

⁴DavidCrystal, *Basic Sentence Grammar*,
<http://grammar.about.com/grammarintro.html>(online Nov 01 2014)

B. Problems of the Study

The problems in this research are

1. What problems are faced by the tenth class students of SMK YP SEI PALANGKA RAYA in using letter –s/es as plural nouns?
2. What have the English teacher effort to overcome their problems?

C. Objectives of the Study.

The objectives of there are

1. To describe the problems faced by the tenth class students of SMK YP SEI PALANGKA RAYA in using letter–s/es as plural nouns.
2. To describe the teacher effort to overcome their problems.

D. Significances of the Study

The study has two significances, they are:

1. The result was strengthening the existing theories of teaching media effects toward pluralization.
2. The result of the study was give suggestion to teachers practicable.

E. Definition of the Concept

It is necessary to clarify the key term used in this study such as in the following:

1. Problem

Problem is a thing that is difficult to deal with or understand.⁵

⁵*Ibid.*, p. 919.

2. Plural Noun

Plural noun is a form of a noun or verb which refers to more than one person or thing.

F. Research Methodology

1. Method of the study

The writer will use qualitative approach to get data for this study. Qualitative inquiry seeks to understand and interpret human and social behavior as it is lived by participants in a particular social setting. It is an intensely personal kinds of research, one that freely acknowledges and admits the subjective perceptions and biases of both participants and researcher. In contrast, the qualitative approach suggest that inquiry is always value bound, it can never be considered value free, and inquires must be explicit about the roles that values play in any given study.⁶

2. Type of the study

Basically, this study belonged to a descriptive study. It will defined by the purpose of this study that the writer only wanted to describe the students problems use plural noun in tenth class of SMK YP SEI Palangka Raya..

Based on the opinion above, a descriptive study is a study that is based on the facts and the actual matters that happen currently. In this sense, the writer only observes the current problems and describes what were occurred on the problems.

⁶Donal Ary, Lucy Cheser Jacobs, Chris Sorensen,*Intoduction to Research in Education*, New York Wadsworth: 2010, p. 420

3. Population and sample of the Study

a. Population

Ary et.al stated that population is defined as all members of any well-defined class of people, events or object meanwhile the sample is a part of population. The population of this study was all the students' of tenth class students of SMK YP SEI Palangka Raya.

Table 1.1 Number of Population

Name of School	Class X	Total Students
SMK YP SEI Palangka Raya	21	21

b. Sample

Sample is a part of population. According to Ary, “ Sample is a group selected from population for observation in a study .⁷The writer was used tenth class students of SMK YP SEI Palangka Raya.

4.Data Source

Source of data in the study was the subject were the data obtained. The data needed were the students in using letter s/es. The students' were of the tenth class students of SMK YP SEI PALANGKA RAYA.

⁷ Donald Ary, Lucy Cheser Jacobs, Chris Sorensen, *Introduction to Research in Education*, p.649.

5. Research Instruments to Collect the Data

Collecting the data is a process in supplying the primer data for the research needed.⁸

a. Observation

Observation is either an activity of a living being (such as a human), consisting of receiving knowledge of the outside world through the senses, or the recording of data using scientific instrument. The term may also refer to any data collected during this activity. An observation can also be the way we look at things or when we look at something.⁹

The writer have Observed the Condition of school and Classrooms, the schedule and English Subject material at tenth class of SMK YP SEI Palangka Raya.

b. Test

According to Nurkancana that : Test is a way to show valuation that form examination or the series of examination that must be done by the student or group of student, so it result about attitude or achievement of student, it can be compared the other value that achieved by the students or with standard value that determined.¹⁰

The students have to do the test, the test are found plural noun in text, and write the 50 plural nouns of the 50 singular nouns that has given by the writer. Because, the writer wants to know the problem of students

⁸Nazirmoh.Ph.D.*MetodePeneitian*. Jakarta:Ghaia Indonesia, .1988,p. 211.

⁹ David H. Freedman.<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Observation>.(online April, 07 2015)

¹⁰Wayan Nurkancana & P.P.N Sumartana, *Evaluasi Pendidikan*, Surabaya: Usaha Nasional, p. 25.

in changing Using Letter-s/es as Plural Noun and wants to know the writing skill students.

c. Interview

According to Moleong that Interview is the dialogue with certain purpose, it is done by two people they are interview who gives questions and the other person is interviewee who give answer.¹¹

The interview technique used to complete data gathered from test. So, the writer expects that the data was more accurate. The interview has done to the students who have problems in using letter-s/es as a plural noun and with the English teacher who has teach about plural noun at the tenth class students of SMK YP SEI Palangka Raya.

6. Data Collection Procedure

The writer was collected some of data that very important to support this study. It is useful to prepare everything that relates with this study, they are:

- a. The writer went to school.
- b. The writer was gives test for students.
- c. The writer was collected the test result.

7. Data Analysis Procedures

The writer was analyze the data with a few of ways, they are:

- a.** The writer was collected the result of tests.

¹¹Lexy j. Moleong, *Metodologi Penelitian Kualitatif*, Bandung: PT. Remaja Rosdakarya , 2004, p. 135.

- b. The writer was give score for the students that suitable with the criteria.
- c. The writer was arranging the score into the table.
- d. The writer was determine the mean score with the formula:

$$M_x = \frac{\sum FX}{N}$$

Note :

M_x : Mean

F : Frequency of scores

X : The score

N : Number of test.¹²

G. Frame of Thinking

The frameworks of the discussion of this study are:

1. Chapter I : Introduction

This Chapter consists or the Background of the Study (this section discussed the phenomenon that become problems that being faced), Problems of the Study (discussed about the problem that were researched), Objectives of the Study (this section discussed the goal that were going to be achieved reached in this study), Significances of the Study (this section discussed the important beneficial in this study and consist of the theoretical and practical significant), Definition of the Concept (this section describe about the definition of kept terms that

¹²Anas Sudijono, *Pengantar Statistik Pendidikan*, Jakarta: PT. Raja Grafindo Persada p.85.

were used in the study), Research Methodology (this section there are method of the study, type of the study, population and sample of the study, data source, research instruments of collection the data, data collection procedures, data analysis procedures), Frame of Thinking.

2. Chapter II: Review of Related Literature

This chapter consists of Previous Study (studies related to conditional sentences), The Nature of Grammar, Noun, Types of Noun, Singular noun, Plural noun, Objective of Education, Teaching English at junior high school level, Theory of Second Language Acquisition, Definition of Strategy, Kinds of Strategy, Definition of Learning Strategy, Classification of Language Learning Strategies and Teaching Strategies.

3. Chapter III : Result of the Study

This chapter present the research finding, the writer presented the Result of the Test, and Result of the Interview with students and english teacher.

4. Chapter IV : Discussion

This chapter discussions, the writer presented the discussion about The Problems Faced by the First Year Students of SMK YP SEI PALANGKA RAYA in Using Letter-S/Es as Plural Nouns and The English Teacher Done to Overcome Their Problems

5. Chapter V : Closure

This chapter would mainly present the Conclusion and the Suggestion of the thesis.