

CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION

A. Background of Study

Language is essential for humans, a tool for humans to communicate with each other by understanding between the sender and receiver of language. Language can make it more accessible to guide ideas, feelings, and many other things. In the education window, language can help students gain information about knowledge, without language students cannot understand the lessons. Nishanthi stated in this global era the importance of English cannot be denied or ignored because English is the most significant common language spoken universally.¹ English has become an influential language in the universe used by humans, besides by language people can understand each other. As mentioned by Etfita, to master integrated language skills learners must study four skills when learning English, such as speaking, reading, writing, and listening.²

Four English language skills are extremely hard to guide, one of the difficult skills is writing because there are many steps to create a text correctly. In agreement with Suvin's explanation, writing is a skill that includes a complex method containing several stages to make it to the final form.³ Writing is a crucial skill in learning English, to master writing skills needs to understand the errors or systematic writing. In writing, to create a good text or sentences used a basic

UNIVERSITAS DARUSSALAM GONTOR

¹ Rajathurai nishanthi. *The importance of learning English in today's world*. (India: International open access journal, 2018) p.2

² Fauzul Etfita. *The correlation between students' grammar mastery and news writing ability*. (Riau: Al-Islah jurnal Pendidikan, 2019) p.2

³ Sujana Suvin. *Complexities of writing skill at the secondary level in Bangladesh education system: A quantitative case study analysis*. (Bangladesh: Canadian center of science and education, 2020) p. 66

element of language called Grammar. As mentioned by Eftita, language components consist of phonology, grammar, vocabulary, and pronunciation.⁴

Grammar is the instrument of language and specific things in English learning, especially four skills. Grammar helps learners to understand the meaning of the sentence and the role of Grammar to correctly organise spoken and written English. In another agreement Normawati explained that grammar is a basic element of communication, both in written and spoken form, to express thoughts, ideas, and feelings.⁵ This crucial component in writing and speaking because it trains the learner to express their feeling and ideas, and grammar in writing is important. In another word, grammar helps one know sentence level or structure. Grammar function based on systematic linguistic is how to speak and write language in social situation.

Studying grammar needs a willingness to study from the student or the student's perception of grammar, it can make easy in the learning process. Oxford Dictionary defines the meaning of perception are, 1) the ability to perceive something and 2) the way of seeing or understanding something.⁶ Besides Mirazna et.al stated that Perception is the way people notice or understand something using one of their feelings⁷ Perception is the way people think and relate to people's views about the information in their environments and indicate

⁴ Fauzul etfita. *The correlation between students' grammar mastery and news writing ability*. (Riau: Al- Ishlah jurnal Pendidikan, 2019) p. 59

⁵ Afi Normawati. *How EFL Learners Perceive Grammar in Speaking and Writing*. (Magelang: Journal of English educational study, 2023) p. 23

⁶ From *Oxford Dictionary Learner's Pocket fourth edition*. (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2011) p. 352

⁷ Mirna Nur Mirazna And Nur Hikmah, *Students' Perception Toward Grammar in English Classroom*. (Cimahi: Journal of English Educational Study No. 5, 2019): P. 682–86.

positive and negative views in people's minds. Perceptions allow humans to detect and identify the environment around them, such as another human's situation, condition, and characteristics.

The research from Afi Normawati 2023 under the title "How EFL Learners Perceive Grammar in Speaking and Writing in the fourth-semester of English Education Department of Universitas Tidar", from the research observation to respondents by an open-ended questionnaire, the results show that in writing EFL learners value grammar as a crucial aspect, therefore they focus on grammar when they produce written text. It means grammar has a significant role in writing, according to the responses of the participants, most of the students began to learn English in elementary school and the majority of the students stated the reasons they learned English is that they were aware of the importance of mastering English in this era. Furthermore, the students state grammar is important to facilitate communication, if a person's grammar is bad, he/she will produce too many errors. The role of grammar in writing and speaking is important for students to succeed in learning English.⁸

Grammar is not a new phenomenon in the world of Education and students have a role in learning English for the stability between Grammar and writing because it is important. Grammar is a basic element in the English language with the function to construct the sentences or control word order. The research field preliminary study (July, 2023) showed that most fourth-grade students seldom practice Grammar in writing, the effect make error sentences meaningless. They

⁸ Afi Normawati, *How EFL Learners Perceive Grammar in Speaking and Writing*. (Magelang: Journal of English Educational Study, 2023) p. 1

tend to write in their own words or what they think without attending to the structure of sentences. The positive impact of practicing Grammar the writing is meaningful for the reader and the negative impact they can write an English text but faults in the structure.

Thus, considering the explanation above, the researcher is conducting the problem about difficulties students in writing and observing by perception and be entitled “Students’ perception of grammar in a writing class at the fourth grade of ITTC Gontor for girls’ campus three”. The environmental analysis is conducted on students of fourth-grade ITTC Gontor for girls’ campus three. The participants learned English, especially Grammar since they studied in third grade and got a writing course in Composition during fourth grade.

B. Problem Formulating

Based on the background study above, the problem of the research can be formulated in the following questions:

1. How is the student’s perception of grammar in a writing class?
2. What are factors affecting the students’ perception of Grammar in writing class?

C. Research Objectives

Based on the problem, the study has several purposes mentioned below:

1. To determine the students’ perception of Grammar in writing class.
2. To know the factors affecting students’ perception of Grammar in writing class.

D. Significance of the Study

Based on the purpose of the study, the researcher expects this research to have several advantages for students, teachers, and the future or next research.

1. Theoretical Use

- a. This research is expected to add new knowledge to the world of education, especially in writing skills and grammar.
- b. This research is useful for developing the student's English writing ability.

2. Practical use

a. Student

This research informs the students about factors affecting grammar in English writing.

b. Teacher

This research informs the teacher about factors in English writing and students' perceptions of grammar, for developing the quality of learning.

c. Institution

This research informs the institution about the effective way to learn English, especially in writing skills, for developing English learning.

d. Future

This research can be useful for learning the English language and knowing other ways to learn English.

E. System of Writing

To facilitate the discussion and writing in preparing this thesis, the preparation is divided into five chapters, namely:

Chapter I: Introduction, contains the main points that become the background of research, problem formulation, research objectives, significance of study, and system of study.

Chapter II: The literature review, contains the theory of studies based on the previous journals and the definition of the theory that the researcher wants to observe.

Chapter III: research methods, including research approaches, research time and location, research instruments, data collection, data analysis, and trustworthiness.

Chapter IV: data presentation, data analysis, and discussion, including general data, specific data, analysis data, and discussion.

Chapter V: closing, includes the conclusions, suggestions, final section, bibliography, and appendix.