CHAPTER I
INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

Language is one of the most important things in communication and it is used as a tool for communication among people in all over the world. The existence of language becomes essential, it helps people to express and share their idea and feeling. Hence, the presence of language has overcome people's problems to express and share their feelings, ideas and knowledges to others.

Language is defined as a system of arbitrary vocal symbols used for human to communicate each other.[1] It means language as a tool of communication in the society. It is to communicate ideas, opinions and feelings. Language is a special characteristic of human being. It can be regarded as human criterion, because only human being can speak language. Language is also defined as "a system of sounds, words, manners, signs, symbols, used by human being to communicate thoughts and feelings".[2] The presence of language is one of the signs of Allah as a creator. As Allah stated in verse Ar-Rum 22:

وَمِنْ آيَاتِهِ خَلْقُ السَّمَاوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ وَاخْتِلَافُ أَلْسِنَتِكُمْ وَأَلْوَانِكُمْ إِنَّ فِي ذَلِكَ لَآيَاتٍ لِلْعَالِمِينَ

> And among His Signs is the creation of the heavens and the earth, and
> the variations in your languages and your colors: verily in that
> are Signs for those who know.[3]

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[1]Ronald Wadhaugh, *Introduction to Linguistic*, (University of Michigan: Mc Graw Hill book company, 1972), p. 3.

[2]AS. Hornby, *Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary*, (New York: Oxford University Press, 1995), p. 662.

[3]Ali Yusuf, *The Holy Qur'an: Text, Translation, and Commentary*, (USA: Amana Corp., 1983), p. 1056.

English is one of the international languages that are used to communicate among people all over the world besides Mandarin and Arabic. Moreover, English plays an essential role in many various aspects of life owned by human being. Nowadays, In Indonesia, English considered as the first foreign language and taught formally from elementary school up to the university level.

There are many components in English that must be mastered by the learners , such as vocabulary, spelling, pronunciation, grammar, etc.

As a part of language components, grammar is a set of rules which govern how units of meaning may be constructed in any language to express him or herself in what would be considered acceptable forms.[4] In this case, grammar as the system of rules in a language, viewed as a mechanism for generating all sentences possible in that language. Moreover, grammar is also known as the set of structural rules that govern the composition of words, phrases and sentences in any natural language.

In this case, it can be concluded that grammar is a set of rules to compose a good sentence in a language in order to be well-understood by the others. To be able to understand the language, one must master grammar rules.

Most of language learners, especially English, faced difficulties to master grammar. They felt difficult to understand the material taught by the teacher. Perhaps, it caused by the teacher choose inappropriate media to teach the material.

To teach grammar, an English teacher should use the interesting teaching method that can make the students interested to learn. Moreover, he or she can use any kinds of media to teach grammar in order to make learning activity cheerful and not monotonous.

Media will offer different situation by increasing students' interest to the lesson. Media can be used by both teachers and students. It gives more detail information and focuses the students on the materials and skills that

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[4]Penny Ur, *Grammar Practice Activities: A Practical Guide for Teacher,* (United Kingdom: Cambridge University Press, 1988), p. 4.

being taught. The use of media also allows the students to be involved in teaching and learning process. Medium is singular form of media. The definition of medium is "a means or instrumentality for storing or communicating information".[5] It is something which is used for a particular person for transferring massages to other people. The use of media gives teachers and students opportunity to do activity together. Then, teacher has to know the appropriate media for the students.

The use of monotonous media in teaching grammar also happened in MTs AL-ASROR Semarang. The teacher explained and wrote the material on the white board without any variation. It gave impact on students' achievement toward the material given, i.e. the students felt bored in their learning processes and finally they couldn't master the material given clearly.

The real fact that could be exemplified was on the teaching Simple Future Tense. Some students' faced difficulties on mastering simple future. They often made errors when composing simple future sentences, e.g. *I am will go to the movie tonight, Andika not will to buy this book,* and *John is going to gives me a present, etc.* The writer knew it when she were studying in related school and her brother too. They thought that the teacher presented the material in classical way and most of the students felt bored when they were learning grammar classically. The writer thought that the way teacher taught his students need to be varied in order to make the students more interesting toward the material given, especially in grammar.

Knowing the fact above, the writer wants to conduct an experimental study on Simple Future Tense using a medium in order to solve the students' problems. In this case, the writer will conduct an experimental research entitled: The Effectiveness of Using Table Charts as A Medium in Teaching Simple Future Tense (An Experimental Research with the Eighth Graders of MTs AL-ASROR Semarang in The Academic Year of 2010/2011).

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[5]Arief S. Sadiman,*et. al.*, *Media Pendidikan: Pengertian, Pengembangan, Pengembangan dan pemanfaatannya*, (Jakarta: PT. Raja Grafindo Persada, 2009), p. 6.

B. Reason for Choosing the Topic

The writer chooses this topic due to the following reasons:

1. Grammar is one of the important English components that are considered difficult to learn by the students especially for junior high school.

2. Some English learners are faced difficulties to master grammar. They felt difficult to understand the material taught by the teacher.

3. The use of media will offer different learning situation by increasing students' interest to the lesson. Media can be used by both teachers and students. In this case, *Table-Chart* for teaching Simple Future Tense.

4. The use of monotonous media in teaching grammar happened in MTs AL-ASROR Semarang. The teacher explained and wrote the material on the white board without any variation. Hence, the students felt bored in their learning processes.

5. Some students often made some errors of composing Simple Future Sentences.

6. The writer wants to know the effectiveness of using *Table-Chart* as a medium to teach Simple Future Tense in MTs AL-ASROR Semarang in the academic year of 2010/2011.

B. Research Question

The problem can be stated as follows:

How is the effectiveness of using *Table-Chart* as a medium in teaching Simple Future Tense with the eighth graders of MTs AL-ASROR Semarang in the academic year of 2010/2011?

C. Objective of the Study

The objectives of the study is to find out the effectiveness of using *Table-Chart* as a medium in teaching Simple Future Tense with the eighth graders of MTs AL-ASROR Semarang in the academic year of 2010/2011.

D. Limitations of the Study

The limitation of this study can be described as follows:

1. This is an experimental research about the use of *Table-Chart* as a medium in teaching Simple Future Tense.

2. The object of this research is just the eighth graders of MTs AL-ASROR Semarang in the academic year of 2010/2011.

3. It is only focus on the use of *shall*, *will* and *be going to* in positive, negative and interrogative form and also in verbal sentences.

E. Significances of the Study

The results of this study in the field of education is expected to give some advantages to all who be a part of education institution.

1. Theoretically the result of this research is expected to give a broader knowledge to the reader about the use of table chart as a medium to teach Simple Future Tense in the Junior High School.

2. Pedagogically the results of this research may give some advantages, as follow:

   a. Students: having known on the use of table chart as a medium to teach Simple Future Tense, students are expected to be more understood and master the material related to Simple Future Tense easily.

   b. Teachers: the result of this study is hoped to give a brief overview to the teacher on the importance of varying teaching media related to teaching Simple Future Tense in order to make students enjoyable on understanding the material given.

   c. Readers : the result of this research is hoped can give more information and contributes the knowledge related to teaching Simple Future Tense by using *Table-Chart*.

   d. School: the result of this study is hoped to be a new supporting method in English teaching and learning process especially on grammar.

F. Definition of the Key Terms

In order to avoid misunderstanding that may happen with this thesis, the researcher would like to clarify the terms used as follows.

1. Effectiveness

   The word effectiveness is noun from the word effective. Effectiveness means the capability of producing an affect.[6]

2. Media

   Media are things which can be manipulated, seen, heard, read, or spoken to convey messages or thoughts that can be used well in teaching and learning activity and can effect the effectiveness of instructional program.[7]

3. *Table-Chart*

   Table is defined as "a list of facts or figures arranged in an ordered in columns or rows".[8] Meanwhile, chart is "an illustration diagram, graph, etc which gives information about something". [9]

4. Teaching

   Teaching is giving instruction about a particular subject to somebody; cause somebody to know or give somebody knowledges, skills, etc.[10]

5. Simple Future Tense

   Simple Future Tense describes an action or state which express the idea or something will occur in the future.[11]

From the definitions above, the writer wants to conduct an experimental research to find out the effectiveness of using *Table-Chart* as a medium which can be used in giving knowledge about grammar achievement of Simple Future Tense for the eighth graders of MTs AL-ASROR in the academic year of 2010/ 2011.

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[6]Wikipedia, "Effectiveness", http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Effectiveness#column-one, cited on November 9 2010.

[7]Asnawir and M. Basyaruddin Usman, *Media Pembelajaran*, (Jakarta: Ciputat Press. 2002), p. 11.

[8]AS. Hornby, *op.cit.*, p. 1213

[9]Asnawir and M.Basyiruddin Usman, *Media Pembelajaran*, (Jakarta: Ciputat Pers, 2002), p.33.

[10]H.Douglas Brown, *Language Assasement: Principles and Classroom Practices*, (London: Longman, 2004), p.5.

[11]Raymond Murphy, *English Grammar in Use,* (Sydney: Cambridge University Press, 1991), p. 16.