CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

Learning and teaching English is not easy work, because it is not our mother tongue and has many differences with Indonesian. Its differences are about grammar, phonology, spelling and vocabulary. Learning English involves the mastery of four language skills. They are listening, reading, writing and speaking. They have some relationship to each other. Beside learn four skills, student must learn grammar. Grammar means a lesson about principles on creating and clustering words into sentences.[1] Grammar refers to the rule about how to speak and write in language. Learning English is not easy for Indonesian learners. One of the obstacles that they generally face is the grammar or the language rules.

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[1] Suryadi & Junaida, *Complete English Grammar-Belajar Bahasa Inggris dari Awal Sampai Mahir*, (Yogyakarta: Pustaka Pelajar, 2008), P.1

The learners must learn about the structure of the sentence (grammar), because without these structures it is difficult to make comprehensible sentences. Grammar has function to create good and understandable sentences. Knowing how to build and use certain structure make it possible to communicate common types of meaning successfully. Without structures, it is difficult to make comprehensible sentence. We must therefore, try to identify these structures and teach them well. Tenses are the basic grammar which are taught for students at Junior High School and Senior High School. There are many students get difficulties to understand it, about how to use it, when to use it and how is the application of tense in the text. Grammar always looks a necessary but a very boring part of any students.

There are several learning models that are better and be able to provide a positive impact in the learning process, especially on subjects tenses of simple past tense that requires understanding and memorization, so that students remember it

easily. This learning model must have the same goal which gives students' understanding of a lesson so that students will be more critical, active and creative. From various models of learning, the researcher interested in Make a Match learning model.

Make a Match learning model or finding a partner is one of alternative that can be implemented to students. The application of this model starts from the techniques that the students were told to look for pairs of cards that is the answer or question given by the teacher. Students are expected to find a partner card before specified time limit. Students who can match the card faster will get poin. And to improve results students learn active, creatively through this learning model of Make a Match. It can develop values of participate capability between student with each other, as well as accompanied by togetherness and responsibility.

Based on the teacher's explanation of Mr. Shodiq, S. Pd as a English teacher at MA Yataba, students are still confused to

distinguish the simple present, present continuous and simple past form when it is applied in sentence and the students are shy or afraid of doing grammatical errors. They are only passive in the class. In addition, the teacher argued actually students need a new thing in studying and learning English. But he did not have enough time to teach students using media or using fun way. So, according to the problem that is faced by students above, the researcher use Make a Match model to improve students' understanding on simple past tense.

Because of the reason above, the researcher try to make research of *"Using MMM (Make a Match Model) to Improve Students' Understanding On Simple Past Tense", (A Classroom Action Research at the 10th Grade of MA Tarbiyatul Banin Banat (YATABA) Alasdowo Dukuhseti Pati in the Academic Year of 2015/2016).*

B. **Reason for Choosing the Topic**

Grammar is necessary part when we study English. Grammar is needed in order students able to make comprehensible

4

sentences. Unfortunately, there are many students are bored about it. The main idea of teaching grammar is to help learners internalize the structure taught in such a way that they can be used in every day communication.

In this case, the researcher wants to use Make a Match model because the first is to help and improve students' understanding on simple past tense. The second is the writer takes tenses especially simple past tense because there are many students still less understand about it. In some texts simple past tense are includes narrative, recount, news item that taught in Senior High School. And the third it is an interesting learning model, because it will encourage student to be active and creative in learning English. By implementing Make a Match in learning, students will enthusiasm to study too.

C. Research Questions

The problem can be stated as follows.

1. What does the implementation of Make a Match Model to improve students' understanding on simple past tense?

2. What can Make a Match Model improve students' understanding on simple past tense?

D. Objectives of the Study

The objective of study as follows.

1. To describe the implementation of Make a Match model to improve students understanding on simple past tense.

2. To find out the improvement of students' understanding on simple past tense after the implementation of Make a Match.

E. Significances of the Study

This study is hoped can give some positive contribution to the English language learning context and will be beneficial for many sides such as for students, teacher, writer, school, and reader.

Theoritically :

The result of research can give possitive contribution and add knowledge about Make A Match model that will be able to improve students' understanding on simple past tense and also can be used reference for those who want to conduct a

research in English teaching and learning process.

Practically:

1. The student

    This study help improve students' understanding on simple past tense, understanding about how the structure of simple past tense, and it can motivate students to learn English. So that the students feel easy to study simple past tense and will make their understanding clearly.

2. English teacher

    The researcher hopes it can be an alternative model in teaching English. So, the students will get better achievement.

3. The researcher

    The researcher can use this model of learning to improve her ability in learning and teaching grammar, especially in simple past tense.

4. The next researcher

The writer hopes this research can be developed by the next researcher in different skill and participant.

F. Definition of Key Terms

1. Improving

   Improving is the way to make something better.[2]

2. Students

   Students are persons who are studying at college, university and secondary school or any person interested in particular subject.[3]

3. Understanding

   Understanding is the power of clear thought, intelligence, or knowledge of the meaning, importance or cause of something.[4]

4. Simple Past Tense

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[2] A. S. Hornby, *Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary of Current English*, (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1995), p. 586.

[3] A. S. Hornby, *Oxford Learner's Pocket Dictionary*, 3rd ed, (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2003), p. 429.

[4] A. S. Hornby, *Oxford Advanced Learners......, p. 1299*

The simple past tense indicates that an activity or situation began and ended at a particular time in the past.[5] In other word, it used to express or say that an action happened in the past.

5. Make A Match

Make a Match is a cooperative learning that is looking for a partner in order to find the card or about the appropriate answer.

6. Cooperative Learning Model

Learning model is a plan or a pattern that is used as a guide in planning for learning in the classroom or in tutorials and instruments of learning including books, movies, computers, curriculum and others.

Cooperative learning is learning using interaction of students with students and students with teacher. The teacher as a facilitator who directs the students to be active in learning. In this study,

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[5] Betty Schrampfer Azar, *Understanding and Using English Grammar (*USA: Prentice hall Regrents, 1981*),* 2nd, p. 24

cooperative learning model that will be used is the type of cooperative learning that is Make a Match.

7. Action Research

Action research is one of problem solving strategies which provides real action in the form of innovative development process that "tried while continue" or "on going job" to detect and to solve problem.[6]

G. The Scope of the Study

To limit the scope of the study, the writer will only discuss such as follows:

1. This study was done in the tenth grades of MA Tarbiyatul Banin Banat Alasdowo Dukuhseti Pati in the academic year of 2015/2016.

2. This study talk about improving students' understanding on simple past tense by using Make a Match model. It is done, because there are many students cannot

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[6] Suharsimi Arikunto, *Prosedur Penelitian: Suatu Pendekatan Praktek*, (Jakarta: PT. Rineka Cipta, 2002), p. 82.

distinguish simple present, present continuous and simple past in sentence.