

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of Study

Language is as the important part in speech to communicate with other people. Language is used as a means of communication among human beings. People can cooperate and get along with each other by the language. The explanation before is supported by the definition of language based on oxford dictionary that stated language is system of communication in speech and writing that it is used by people of particular country.¹ The other sources also explain about one standard definition of language. It is stated that a language is a system of arbitrary conventionalized vocal symbol, written or gestural symbol that enable member of a given community to communicate intelligibly with one another.² It means that Language is not only used for communication in speech but also in writing.

We can take statement that we need a language to communicate and interact with others based on the definotions above. In Koran also, Allah said in surah al-Khujarat verse 13:

¹Victoria Bull ed., *oxford learner pocket*, (UK: Oxford University Pers, 2008), p. 247

²H. Douglas Brown, *Principles of Language Learning and Teaching*, (New York: Addison Wesley Longman. Inc., 2000), 4th Ed., p. 5

يَا أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ إِنَّا خَلَقْنَاكُمْ مِنْ ذَكَرٍ وَأُنْثَىٰ وَجَعَلْنَاكُمْ شُعُوبًا وَقَبَائِلَ
لِتَعَارَفُوا إِنَّ أَكْرَمَكُمْ عِنْدَ اللَّهِ أَتْقَاكُمْ إِنَّ اللَّهَ عَلِيمٌ خَبِيرٌ ﴿١٣﴾

“O mankind! We created you from a single (pair) of a male and a female, and made you into nations and tribes, that you may know each other (not that you may despise (each other)). Verily the most honored of you in the sight of Allah is (he who is) the most righteous of you. And Allah has full knowledge and is well acquainted (with all things)”.³

From this verse, we can take the statement that Allah created people into nation and tribes to know each other. The way to know each other is by the communication using language. From the communication they will speak with others.

In south east Asian, English is considered as foreign language except Singapore. For Indonesian English learners, English is not their mother tongue that is used in their daily activity. Because of that, sometimes the students get difficulties in writing. The students still make common mistake in writing, even they have already known about the grammatical rules.

Grammar is one of important aspect in English language. We can make writing text correctly by using correct grammar. The readers also can understand what we mean by using correct grammar. It can avoid misunderstanding while communicating and expressing an idea.

³Harun Yahya,” Holy Quran Translation”,
http://www.harunyahya.com/Quran_translation/Quran_translation49.php, p.1

There are many aspects that are studied in English Grammar. One of them is Verb-Ing. There are many types of Verb-Ing can be identified in the sentence use. It can be as the verb if they are taken in the present continuous, as the noun if they are be gerund, and sometimes Verb-Ing can be adjective too. The other discussion about Verb-Ing is about the changing of verb, from the infinitive to be Verb-Ing. Because of the various kinds of types of verb-Ing, most of students feel difficult and still confused to distinguish which one is verb or gerund. Not only how to distinguish between gerund and verb, but also how to write down verb well from the infinitive verb to be Verb-Ing.

The researcher can say that the students still get difficult to distinguish types of Verb-Ing after the researcher asked for the English Grammar lecturer about the ability of her students in identifying types of Verb-Ing. She said that the students were still confused to identify types of Verb-Ing whether that as gerund or verb. In addition to the reason, the researcher chooses English Department Freshmen Students of Walisongo State Islamic University because the material about verb was studied in the first semester and also as the prospective teacher they must master all of material about grammar without any differentiation.

Actually, identifying types of Verb-Ing is not something difficult if the students know about the rules. In understanding and identifying types of Verb-Ing, the students have to know the characteristic of each type of Verb-Ing, such as the structure, the

position, and tense. If they do not know about the characteristic of each type of Verb-Ing, they will not know the meaning of the sentence. It can make the students misunderstand.

Based on the description above, the researcher is interested to carry out a research entitled “The Students’ Error in Identifying Types of Verb-Ing in Sentence Use (A Descriptive Study at English Department Freshmen Students of Walisongo State Islamic University in the Academic Year of 2015/2016)”. This paper attempts to describe and to find out the common error made by the Students in identifying types of Verb-ing in sentence use.

B. Reasons for Choosing the Topic

The researcher chooses the topic because of the following reasons; Understanding the types of verb-Ing is part of writing and grammar skill as mentioned in background of the study above. It is the hard skill for students who learning English because in this case, they will face many difficulties in understanding the types verb-Ing, even the meaning of the sentence. Another reason is the researcher wants to know the error made by the Walisongo State Islamic University students in identifying types of verb-Ing in sentence use.

C. Research Questions

Based on the background of study above, in this paper the researcher discusses about:

“What is the error made by Walisongo State Islamic University Students in identifying types of Verb-Ing in sentence use the academic year of 2015/2016?”

D. Objectives of the Study

Based on the problem above, this study discusses the following matters.

“To find out the common error made by the Students of Walisongo State Islamic University in the academic year of 2015/2016 in identifying types of Verb-Ing in sentence use.”

E. Limitation of the Research

In order that the study enables to answer the formulated problem appropriately, the researcher needs to emphasize its scope and limitation, to limit the range of the discussion. The researcher would give the limitation of this study on the common error which is made by the students of Walisongo State Islamic University in the academic year of 2015/2016 in identifying types of Verb-ing in sentence use.

F. Significances of the Study

The significance of the study can contribute some benefits. In this study, there are significances. The first is for the students. This study may help the students develop their ability in identifying types of Verb-Ing in sentence use in order that they can make advanced writing. The second is for the teacher. The result of the study is expected to be useful for English teacher. The researcher hopes that English teacher will give more focus in their teaching learning activity in the material types of Verb-Ing in sentence use at English department to develop their students' ability. The next benefit is for the reader. By reading this study, the reader will get more information and experience about types of Verb-Ing in sentence use. And the last is for the researcher. The researcher will get more knowledge about types of verb-Ing because she will discuss about types of verb-Ing in her paper.