

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

Allah create human in the world with various nations, ethnics and costumes'. Even so the language, one country and another country have different language. Allah states about the variety of language in surah Ar-Ruum verse 22:

وَمِنْ ءَايَاتِهِ ۚ خَلَقَ السَّمَوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ وَاخْتَلَفَ ٱلسِّنَتِكُمْ وَأَلْوَانَكُمْ

إِنَّ فِي ذَٰلِكَ لَآيَاتٍ لِّلْعٰلَمِينَ ﴿٢٢﴾

“And of His signs is the creation of the heavens and the earth, and the diversity of your tongues and colors. In the surely are signs for those who possess knowledge.” (Ar-Ruum : 22)¹

In surah above, Allah shows us the signs of His authority through differences of tongue. Tongue means a language. There are no people who have the same language in the world. It is influenced by the location. People who live in different location have different language. They have to cooperate with others to complete the necessities in their life.

Language as the tool of communication will unite the human as they are different from region, nationality, race, and

¹ Mahmud Y. Zayid, *The Quran: An English Translation of the Meaning of the Quran*, (Lebanon: Dar Al-Choura, 1980), p. 297

color. By the diversity of language, it shows that human has the superior brain than other creature. They create their language systematically and arbitrary.

English is important language in this world. In Indonesia, English is the main foreign language and it is study in University, Senior High School, Junior High School, until Elementary School. There are many components which important in English. One of them is structure or grammar.

Grammar is one of the language components. Grammar is a set of signals which language expresses its meaning or the total of structure of the language. Commonly, all learners in Junior High School felt difficult to study English grammar. They felt difficult to understand the material. Usually, the teacher explains the material with classical ways, such as explaining in front of class, asking and answering questions. It makes students bored and difficult to memorize the material.

Teaching learning process should be varied to make students feel fun during the process. In language learning, they need more than instruction and command from their teacher. This is challenge for the teacher to be able to motivate the students to pay attention. Teacher needs new strategy in teaching and learning process, such as using game. Playing fun and interesting game can promote and maintain children's motivation and interest in learning English. Andrew Wright, et.al defines "game is an activity which is entertaining and engaging, often

challenging, and an activity in which learners play and usually interact with others.”² It is also explained by Hamalik in his book, he said, “media can be used to motivate students in learning”.³

Game is one of the media to explain English material and it make students not bored. Grab the word game is one of the games that can implicate in teaching learning. By using this game, the students will get the improvement of their grammar, especially simple past tense.

Simple past tense is one of tenses in English grammar. It seem very easy to study, but sometime it is rather difficult for the beginner. The students in the eighth grade of MTs Fatahillah Ngaliyan Semarang are the beginner to study simple past tense, it seems very easy for them but sometime they still have difficulties to make simple past tense. They are still confused to change the verb 1 into past verb form, so it will make the verb ungrammatical or unacceptable.

The facts above underline my intention to present teaching grammar especially teaching simple past tense to the students at class 8A of MTs Fatahillah Ngaliyan Semarang by using game, and the game namely grabe the word game. By using grab the word game, the writer tried to make studying of grammar

² Andrew Wright, David Betteridge, Michael Buckby, *Games for Language Learning, New Edition*, (UK: Cambridge University Press, 2006), p.1.

³ O Hamalik, *Media Pendidikan*, (Jakarta: DEPDIKBUD, 1993). P. 18

especially simple past tense is happy and fun, and also make a competitive character in every student. The students played the words that are taught by the teacher. So, the teacher should place a higher priority on having fun in teaching.

B. Question of the Research

The questions of this research are:

1. How is the implementation of grab the word game to improve students' mastery of simple past tense at class 8A of MTs Fatahillah Ngaliyan Semarang in the academic year of 2013-2014?
2. Can grab the word game improve students' mastery of simple past tense at class 8A of MTs Fatahillah Ngaliyan Semarang in the academic year of 2013-2014?
3. How is the improvement of students' mastery of simple past tense using grab the word game at class 8A of MTs Fatahillah Ngaliyan Semarang in the academic year of 2013-2014?

C. Objective of the Research

In accordance with the problem formulation above, the objective of this study are as follow:

1. To describe the implementation of grab the word game to improve students' mastery of simple past tense at class

8A of MTs Fatahillah Ngaliyan Semarang in the academic year of 2013-2014 .

2. To identify whether grab the word game can be used to improve students' mastery of simple past tense at class 8A of MTs Fatahillah Ngaliyan Semarang in the academic year of 2013-2014.
3. To identify the improvement of students' mastery of simple past tense using grab the word game at class 8A of MTs Fatahillah Ngaliyan Semarang in the academic year of 2013-2014.

D. Pedagogical Significance

The result of this study is expected to give some positive outcome as follow:

1. For the teacher, hopefully this research can give reference to the teacher in selecting ways to teach their students especially in teaching simple past tense.
2. For the students, it is hoped that the students get “new things” in learning grammar, and it can makes students fun and understand about simple past tense.
3. For the writer, by doing this research the writer will get some experiences and knowledge about the study and it will be useful for the future.