# CHAPTER I

# INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 Background of the Study

Everyone knows a language. Everyone can speak and be understood by others who know that language. It means everyone has the capacity to produce sounds that signify certain meanings and to understand or interpret the sounds produced by others. George Yule states that "If human language is indeed such a unique form of communication, then it would seem inconceivable that other creatures would be able to develop an understanding of this specialized human code of expression (1985:23)". The statement describes that language is not viewed only as a system of communication, then many species communicate. Human also use systems other than their language to relate to each other and to send "messages".

To know deeper about language, human should study linguistics. In linguistics, there are two aspects to study language. The first is grammatical aspect and the second is social aspect. Grammatical aspect includes everything speakers know about the language – the sound system, called phonology; the system of meanings, called semantics; the rules of word formation, called morphology; and the rules of sentence formation, called syntax. Then, social aspect consists of Language Learning and Language Performance. Language Learning studies the capability of human to learn language, while the other one study about the rule of language.

In this thesis, the writer will study morphology, especially about morpheme. Morpheme is the smallest meaningful unit in language (Nida, 1949:6). It means that language always has a meaning. A morpheme may be composed of one sound or two sounds or several sounds. The size of the unit is not important. The important is that the unit should have meaning and it can not be broken down into smaller units which are meaningful. For example, the word *dogs* is composed of two units: dog + s; the first unit refers to the animal; the second unit refers to the number of animals (more than one).

Based on definition of morpheme above, the writer knows that morpheme can not be separated from word. Julia S. Falk gives definition of the term 'word' as follows:

> A word is any linguistic unit that is capable of occurring as a minimum free form. A linguistic unit is said to be a free form if it may occur as an entire utterance; that is, if it is capable of independent use (1973: 24).

That opinion describes a word as a minimum free form which consists of one or more morphemes. In addition, morpheme itself is a minimum significant or meaningful unit which may be either free or bound. Thus, it can be said that word may be a morpheme or a combination of morphemes. Concerning with the title of this study, the writer will study about English complex word. Complex Word is a combination of one morpheme and one or more bound morphemes (Potter, 1957:78). Simply, a complex word should have two morphemes, that is one free morpheme and one or more bound morphemes. For example, the word 'boy' and 'boyish' are complex words. The word *boys* consist of two morphemes, the free

form *boy* + the bound form –*s*. The form *boyish*, however, comprises two morphemes, the free form *boy* + the bound form –*ish*.

In this research, the morphemic analysis on complex words is chosen as the topic because there are some difficulties to identify the morpheme in English complex words. The identification of morpheme is a confusing problem in morphology. Beside that, by studying morpheme, the writer is capable of producing a very large number of word combinations which are distinct in meaning. In addition, the writer will get many vocabularies through analysis of morpheme on complex words.

## 1.2 Statement of the Problem

This study is an attempt to analyze English complex words in "Asia Pacific" Magazine. The study deals with the following problems:

1. What is the type of each of the morphemes which exists in the complex words?

2. What is the grammatical feature of those morphemes?

## 1.3 Objective of the Study

The aim of writing this thesis is to analyze the morphemes on complex words. The objectives of the study are as follows:

1. To describe the type of each of the morphemes which exists in the complex words.

2. To describe the grammatical feature of those morphemes.

## 1.4 Scope of the Problem

It is important to limit the scope of the problem in this study, in order to get a detail understanding about the topic. In this research, the writer does not study the change meaning or the structure of complex words. The writer will focus the problem about the morphemic analysis only, especially on complex words. The thesis will analyze the complex words, type of morphemes, and the grammatical features of those morphemes.

## 1.5 Significance of the Study

The research is expected to give a significance contribution to the study of linguistics, especially in morphology. The study of morphemic analysis on complex words is hoped to make the reader easy to understand about morphemes and complex words. Hopefully, it will be useful to develop the further research in the same subject matter.

## 1.6 Source of the Data

The data in this thesis are taken from "Asia Pacific" Magazine on June 2004, volume 2, number 2. The magazine becomes the source of data because there are many complex words which are found in "Asia Pacific" Magazine. It is appropriate for the data of this research.

Beside that, "Asia Pacific" is chosen as the source of data because it is one of the English magazines which is published worldwide.

## 1.7 Organization of the Thesis

To know the content of this thesis easily, the writer adds the framework of the research. This thesis divides into five chapters. The first chapter presents the introduction which consists of seven points. They are background of the study, statement of the problem, objective of the study, scope of the problem, significance of the study, source of the data, and organization of the thesis.

The second chapter treats the underlying theories. This chapter is basic to analyze the data, because it is impossible for us to solve the problem without knowing the theories.

Then, chapter three discusses the methodology of research which talk about what kind of research is used in this research. It also explains the population and sample of the data, the data collecting procedure, and technique of data analysis.

Next, the fourth chapter considers the data analysis. This chapter shows us how to overcome the problems. It will describe the analysis of morpheme in English complex words.

The last chapter is making conclusion. It gives conclusion base on the result of data analysis.