

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Language is a means of communication to support people's need as social beings. Besides as a means of communication, language is also considered as a social institution and value system. Language, as a social institution and value system, means that language is an objective to control and avoid mistakes in communication. In addition, each language in the world has different pattern and rules. Language is a collective term, and an embrace in it composes all those items of knowledge, which are enable a speaker to make effective use of word sign. Because of different pattern and rules, language can explore a relationship between societies, individual or collective consciousness and individual consciousness that we must obey the pattern and rules in our custom. Therefore, language learners have to pay attention to the patterns and rules of the language they are learning. On their attempt to acquire a target language or a second language, they often have many difficulties because of the differences in the system of the native language and the target language.

In Indonesian, English is a foreign language that must be taught in the schools and the learners are concerned with some variables that influence their ability in learning English. As we all know, English consists of four skills that should be studied. They are listening, speaking, writing, and reading, but those skills will not be perfect if they are not supported by solid structure mastery.

The most effective way of using the right English (speech and writing) is by paying attention to the use of grammar. Preposition is one of variables of grammar. It is important and difficult to learn and to use correctly.

Preposition is the link which connects the words and phrases of a sentence in various special relationships. Preposition is closely related with the structure, function and meaning of the utterance.

Due to the previous background this thesis will be concerned on preposition in English and Indonesian. The problems deal with the structure, the similarities and the differences of English and Indonesian preposition. The problems involved in preposition matter are very important to discuss ; due the fact that the aspects of the problems are always found by the Indonesian learners who study English. By studying this preposition, we know where to place preposition in the right position. Hopefully this thesis will come as a reference to reduce such problems faced by the learner of English.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

Based on the background of study, the researcher formulates the main problems as follows :

1. How are the structures of prepositions of time *at*, *on*, and *in* in English ?
2. What are the similarities and differences of prepositions of time *at*, *on*, and *in* in English and those in Indonesian ?

1.3 Objective of the Study

Based upon the problems of the study, this analysis is to answer the problems :

1. To describe the structure of the prepositions of time *at*, *on*, and *in* in English
2. To describe the similarities and differences of prepositions of time *at*, *on*, and *in* in English and those in Indonesian.

1.4 Scope and Limitation of the Problem

This research will discuss syntax as the main analysis. Here the writer will discuss in detail for the prepositions in English taken from the *Holland Horizon* magazine, especially prepositions of time *at*, *on* and *in*.

1.5 Sources of the Data

The writer takes *Holland Horizon* magazine as the source of data. So the main sources of data are sentence or phrases taken from the *Holland Horizon* magazine. There are some reasons why the writer choose *Holland Horizon* magazine as the source of data, that is, in *Holland Horizon* magazine the data *at*, *on*, and *in* are available and needed by the writer. Besides that *Holland Horizon* magazine is one of magazines that use English that is well known in the world.

1.6 Organization of the Research

The organization of this thesis is as follows :

- CHAPTER I : INTRODUCTION, consists of research background, problem statement, research objective, research scope and limitation, source of the data and research organization.
- CHAPTER II : UNDERLYING THEORIES, includes the theories of syntax, preposition, noun, and phrase.
- CHAPTER III : RESEARCH METHODOLOGY, formulates the following type of research, technique of collecting data, and technique of data analysis.
- CHAPTER IV : ANALYSIS, consists of data analysis.
- CHAPTER V : CONCLUSION