

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Problem

Language is very important in human life. It is needed to express our ideas and wishes. Besides that, language is also used to communicate with one another on social intercourse, or language is one of the most important and characteristic forms of human behavior. Edward Sapir states that "language is a purely human and non instinctive method of communicating ideas, emotion, and desire by means of a system of voluntarily produced symbols (1921: 8)".

There are two forms of language usage. The first is spoken language, the second deals with written language. However, it is not easy to study language especially foreign language as each language has its own system. Many people study English as a foreign language or second language. A scientific study of language is called linguistics.

Linguistic study involves phonetics, phonology, morphology, syntax, and semantics. Phonetics is the study of speech sounds. Further, phonology is the study of the sound patterns of language. Morphology is the study of morphemes. Next, syntax is a study of interrelationship of words. While, semantics is study of the meaning of the words. Accordingly, syntax deals with the arrangement of words to form structure - phrase, clauses and sentences. In syntax and grammar, we are familiar with terms preposition and prepositional phrase. English has two kinds of lexical unit, namely: function words and content word. Functional words

article, preposition, conjunction, et cetera (Rachmadie, 1996: 3). Content words consist of nouns, verbs, adjectives, and adverbs. Preposition is a part of speech in traditional grammar. Preposition as conjunctions different from the other part of speech in each is composed of a small class of words that have no formal characteristic endings, and each signal syntactic structure that function as one of the part of speech.

Preposition is divided into four categories. They are, time, manner, place, direction. Preposition of time is one point of time (in, on, at), extended time (since, by, from, to, during, in/ within), sequence of time (before, after). Further, preposition of place are the point itself (in or inside, on, at), higher or lower that point (over, above, under, underneath, beneath, below), neighboring the point (near, next to, alongside, beside, opposite). Furthermore, kinds of direction to-form toward (s), in (to) – out of, up- down, around, through, past, as far as. Next, kinds of manner are on , with, and by.

For example :

- (1) When doctor made the first incision *on* his infected wound, he screamed.
- (2) Some reports estimated about 100 villagers working *on* the irrigation channel.

The first instance shows that the preposition *on* means *pada* in Indonesian. The meaning *on* here expresses position. While, the second instance the preposition *on* has meaning of *di* and expresses place where 100 villagers are worked.

Based on the examples above, it can be said that the preposition *on* is considered as the problem for English learners since preposition may have some meaning although it is only one word. Concerning the statement above, the writer wants to analyze preposition *on* deeply in order to get more detail the information about the preposition. The writer hopes that the result of this thesis would give useful information about preposition *on* for English learners, so that they are able to produce good sentences and well – formed writings. The title of this thesis is **An Analysis of Preposition “on” in Prepositional Phrase Used in “Forum” Magazine.**

1.2 The Statement of Problem

In this thesis, there are some problems which occur in studying preposition. The problems which will be discussed are as follows:

1. How is the structure of the prepositions “*on*” used in Forum magazine?
2. What are the functions of preposition “*on*” used in Forum magazine?

1.3 The Objectives of the Problem

In line with the problems above, this thesis tries to answer the two questions, namely:

1. To describe the structure of the preposition "on" used in forum magazine.
2. To describe the functions of preposition "on" used in forum magazine.

1.4 The Source of Data

Preposition "on" can help readers to understand English sentences well, and the learners know the usage of preposition "on". The problem focuses on the use of preposition "on". The source of the data in this thesis are taken from *Forum Magazine* of October, 1995, and July, 3 1995 volume 33.

In writing this thesis, the writer has some reasons in choosing *Forum Magazine* as the source of data firstly, because the data analyzed by the writer found in *Forum Magazine*. Secondly, Forum Magazine is popular and familiar for the students.

1.5 The Systematization of Writing

This thesis contains five chapters. The content of each chapter as follows:

1. Chapter I : Introduction

Chapter I presents the background of the problem, the statement of the problems, the objectives of the problem, source of data, and the organization of the this thesis.

2. Chapter II : Underlying Theories

In chapter II, the writer discusses the theory which is used to support the analysis.

3. Chapter III : The Research Method

This chapter presents research method which is applied to conduct the research.

4. Chapter IV : The Analysis

In chapter IV the writer discusses the analysis of the data.

5. Chapter V : Conclusion

This chapter, the writer concludes the analysis of the data.