CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Analysis

Language is the main instrument of communication in human life. By using language, we can communicate with other person. By using language we also can convey our ideas, thought, opinion, and felling in every our life activities. Oller (1979: 7) states that language is usually to convey information about people, things, ideas, states of affair, and attitudes toward all of people in the world.

Nowadays, many people tend to study a foreign language, especially English. As we know that English holds an important part in International life as an International language. Because of that, many people are eager to speak and write English well. Most of the people in the world study English as second language in the school and support it by joining English course. Large part of students in the world study about English as they second, or foreign language.

In studying English, the most important part that the students have to understand is about grammar. Because the most important characteristic of language is the presence of grammar. As we know that, every human language has grammar indeed without exception. Grammar is a basic skill when we study language. Lado (1970:141) states that grammatical structure is the pattern of arrangement of word. Trask (1999: 27) states that grammar is part of linguistic and linguists who specialize in the study of grammar are grammarians. Moreover, there are four branches of Linguistics; they are Semantics, Phonetics, Phonology, Morphology, and Syntax. Moreover, grammar, or structure is included in syntax. According to Stevanie (1992: 10) Syntax is the study of the way in
which sentences are constructed; how sentences are related to each other. Another opinions by Oller, (1979: 65) states that: “The subjects’ matter of language testing research is the use and learning of language. Within educational contexts, the domain of foreign language teaching is a special case of interest.”

Troike (1976: 83) states that: “Some of our rulers for language use vary systematically depending on pronunciation, grammar, and choice of words, gesture, and all other aspects of our linguistic behavior. A speaker’s ability to interpret and procedure appropriate styles of a language are part of his total communicative competence.”

In formal school student who learn English must learn about grammar. Because it can help the student to arrange some words, or sentence correctly if they understand how to arrange it by studying English grammar. ‘Elliptic construction’, or ‘elliptical sentence’ term is used by some writers in their grammar books, such as; Nugroho (2000: 228), Dwi (2005: 32) and Brata (2007: 87). In other English structure, or English Grammar book the writer use the term such as ‘using and + too, so, either, neither’ Schrampfer (1992: 230), ‘positive agreement too – so, negative agreement either – neither’ Dhany R. Cyssco (2003: 93), etc. Elliptic construction or elliptical sentence is one topic that the students learn in English grammar. By understanding Elliptic construction, it can help the student in speaking and writing English well.

The examples of Elliptic construction in conversation are:

1. Riri : “I want to play football this afternoon, How about you? ”
   Yogi : “Me too”.

2. Ria : “I like orange juice very much, and you ?”
Nita: “So do I”

3. Mimi: “My father can’t speak English.”
   Risa: “Neither does my uncle.”

4. Adre: “I rarely come to my girlfriend house.”
   Riyu: “I don’t either.”

5. Yuyuk: “I can speak English fluently.”
   Novi: “But I can’t.”

The examples of elliptic construction on writing are:

1. Mira wears red dress. Yuni wears red dress.
   The two sentences we can combine become:
   Mira wears red dress and so does Yuni. or
   Mira wears red dress and Yuni does too.

2. Agus will not go to the cinema. Rudi will not go to the cinema.
   The two sentences we can combine become:
   Agus will not go to the cinema and Rudi won’t either. or
   Agus will not go to the cinema and neither will Rudi.

In Indonesia, studying English is as important as other subjects for students. They study English beginning from primary school up to university levels.

In this thesis, I want to analyze the ability of year IX Primagama’s students on elliptic construction, or elliptical sentence. Actually, Primagama is one of the biggest studies center in Indonesia that has the students English subject. There are 13 branches of primagama in Medan, but I only chose one branch as the object of my research. The location is on Jl. Letda Sujono No. 108 Medan. I chose that branch as my research
because I work there as English tutor, so it is can makes me easy to get the data from the student.

1.2 Scope of the Analysis

The topic that is going to be discussed in this thesis is about an analysis of year IX Primagama students’ ability in mastering elliptic construction, or elliptical sentence. I want to limit my analysis in order to make the discussion more focused. The subject that is to be analyzed is only about elliptic construction and the object are 30 students who are in the preparation of national examination (UN) at the testing and learning centre, Primagama Jl. Letda Sujono no.108 Medan.

1.3 Problem of the Analysis

The problem that will be analyzed in this thesis is how the ability of the year IX Primagama’s students in mastering Elliptic construction, or Elliptical sentence and in which type of Elliptic construction the student more mastering. The population is year IX who study English at Primagama. Moreover, there are three classes of year IX student in that location. The three of classes will be used as the data by giving them multiple choices questions.

1.4 Objective of the Analysis

The objectives of this research are:

1. To find out the ability of year XI Primagama students’ ability in mastering elliptic construction, or elliptical sentence.

2. To find out in which type of Elliptic construction do the student master.
1.5 Significance of the Analysis

I hope that the result of this research would be useful for English teacher and student. I also hope that this research could be motivating the other researchers who are interested in the same topic. I also hope that the result of the research would be useful to other people who are interested in teaching English, to describe the problems and difficulties especially toward elliptic construction or elliptical sentence. Moreover, I want try to supply solutions to that problems.

1.0 Review of the Related Literature

This research is based on some linguistic theories proposed by some prominent linguists. As I have researched, there has not been any previous analysis about elliptic construction or elliptical sentence before. So for my review of the related literature I just put some of linguists’ definitions, as follows:

Widdowson (2000: 3) states that: “Testing is a universal feature of social life. Throughout history people have been put to the test to prove their capabilities or to establish their credentials”.

Stefanie (1999: 12) states that: “Grammar means something rather different it is the set of elements and rules that make up a language.”

Nugroho (2003: 228) states that:
“*Elliptical sentence adalah gabungan dua kalimat yang berbeda subyeknya tetapi predikatnya sama, digunakan untuk menghindari pengulangan. Tujuan elliptical sentence adalah untuk menyampaikan pernyataan secara sederhana dan sekaligus menghindari pengulangan unsur kalimat yang sama*”.

(www. Google.com)
“An elliptical construction is a construction that lacks of an element that is, nevertheless, recoverable, or inferable from the context. The elliptical construction is a sequence of
words in which some words have been omitted. Because of the logic, or pattern of the entire sentence, it is easy to infer what the missing words are”.

Brata (2004:87) states that:

“Kalimat ellip merupakan pemendekan dari dua kalimat atau lebih dengan cara menghilangkan beberapa bagian kalimat yang memiliki kesamaan dari asalnya”. Kalimat ellip digunakan untuk menghindari adanya pengulangan kata yang sama dalam satu kalimat.

According to Free Word U (global education is in the card) said that:

“An elliptical sentence does not mean a sentence with an ellipsis in it. An ellipsis is three periods, symbolizing missing information. This form most often appears when using only part of a direct quote”.

“A construction is an ordered arrangement of grammatical units forming a larger unit. Ellipsis is about the orthographic usage rules for ’...’” (www.yahoo.com)

From WIKIPEDIA (the free encyclopedia) said that:

“The term ‘ellipsis’ covers a potential multitude of distinct phenomena as it is used in general parlance, most of which are of little linguistic interest, or whose connection to the types”.

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