CHAPTER I
INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background of the Study

Man is a gregarious creature, which means that he likes to live together with other humans since it is his nature. Every individual has their own interests or needs to satisfy themselves and they can achieve it if they are able to live in ease with other people because they need one another. Peacefulness can be created among them if they have a good communication. Each time discussing about communication, language is the most essential tool that will determine what kind of condition they will have.

Human is the highest creation among others and the good thing about human is his creativity. It is proved through the media that they apply to transfer every idea that they have in their mind and share it to others so that better life is not a dream anymore but it will become reality. All this can be implemented unless good communication is part of principle in their life. Communication is an activity done to express everything which appears within human mind and to get the real meaning of its message, language is used to express and deliver every idea so there will be no misunderstanding between speaker and hearer. “Language is the ability to acquire and use complex systems of communication, particularly the human ability to do so, and a language is any specific example of such a system” (https://en.wikipedia.org). Meanwhile, according to Owen (2008:1):

“Language can be defined as a socially shared combination of those symbols
It is obvious now, language has a system, which means that it has been formulated and it has a pattern of which man has to follow so people can comprehend his message. Speaking of language, there are many elements in it so that every written or spoken expression conceives meaning. Study elaborates all parts which involve in the process of language formation is linguistics. Everybody realizes, words will mean nothing if they ignore the governed combination language owns because it is the central point of communication. As it has been understood that language is like a bridge to share information that man uses in their daily activity. To understand comprehension about linguistics, it is important to look at what linguist’s definition. “Linguistics is the science of language, including the sounds, words, and grammar rules” (http://ielanguages.com). Language is a product of human creativity and linguistics is a field to analyze what elements are taken when he starts communicating. Every element found in interaction that he does everyday is elucidated in linguistics subfields.

Pronunciation and composition of words constitute the fundamental of interaction. Pronunciation concerns articulation, intonation while composition is an arrangement of words used to deliver meaningful statement, these are subfields of linguistics talking about. There are seven (7) main topics in linguistics, namely: Phonetics, Phonology, Morphology, Syntax, Discourse Analysis, Pragmatics, and Semantics. On the other words, it can be stated that language can be called a language because it has been passed that phases.
Relating to the title of this thesis, the writer is going to give detailed explanation of one subfield, which is syntax. “Syntax is the study of the principles and processes by which sentences are reconstructed in particular languages” Chomsky (1971:45). Since language is a group of sentences which man acquires from his environment and applies it as connecting equipment to build a good social life, writer (speaker) must be aware of his sentences because reader (hearer) will be confused or misunderstood if he neglects the principles constructing a sentence and if it happens, the message will never be executed as it is expected. This mistake is called grammatical error.

There is a rule or formation in making sentences that must be followed so that communication can run perfectly, the name of its regulation in language is grammar. Unfortunately, it is not easy to make correct sentences based on grammar, moreover it is not his native language. There are parts of speech in English, such as: noun, verb, adjective, adverb, pronoun, preposition, conjunction, interjection, and sometimes numerical, article or determiner (https://en.wikipedia.org). This speech has its own function in sentence and there are many kinds of sentences people write or utter when they do interaction. In this case, language user must recognize what sentence he would like to express in order to place each speech on the right position, choose the appropriate words, and use comprehensive sentence to avoid applying different words but having the same meaning. Even though it has been known, yet English learners still make mistakes when they try to speak their mind in English.
Based on the explanation above, the writer will analyze some grammatical errors found in students of English Department’s essay. English is not something new for Indonesian students yet it is still difficult for some of them to speak or write grammatically. This thesis will convey what kinds of grammatical errors are done by English Department’s students and what kinds of mistakes they do in their essays and the last, what the effects of it.

1.2. Problem of the Study

Question research of the thesis area as followed:

1. What are types of grammatical error found in *Students of English Department’s Essay*?

2. What is the most dominant type of grammatical error found in *Students of English Department’s Essay*?

3. What is the impact of grammatical error found in *Students of English Department’s Essay*?

1.3. Objectives of the Study

In accordance with problems of the study, these are objectives of the study which are going to achieve:

1. To find out the types of grammatical error found in *Students of English Department’s Essay*.

2. To find out the most dominant type of grammatical error found in *Students of English Department’s Essay*.
3. Todescribe the impact of grammatical errors found in Students of English Department’s Essay.

1.4. Scope of the Study

Language is created by humans because they really need it for communicating. To get the aim of communicating, there are many rules that must be concerned, and this rule is called grammar. Each time analyzing about grammar, it will take a long time, so the writer has decided to limit the analysis. Relating to the thesis, the writer only spotlights grammatical errors on: Subject-Verb Agreement, Singular Plural, To Infinitive, Passive Voice, Forms of Adjective, Redundancy, Preposition, Parallel Structure, and Misplaced Word. Since an analysis needs an object as an analysis material, the writer has chosen 20 students’ essay of English Department, University of Sumatera Utara as object of the study. There are nine types of grammatical error as focus of this thesis because after selecting and finally choosing it as object of the analysis, the writer has found that most of the mistakes are on those nine types.

1.5. Significance of the Study

Grammatical error is the title of this analysis. It can be sure that this is not something new for students, especially, the students of English Department of Sumatera Utara University. The writer is interested in analyzing this topic because many of the students who learn or use English as their second language still make the same mistakes. By bringing it as main point of the analysis, the writer hopes that
it will help English learners to understand more and may apply the right grammar when they do interaction in English.