CHAPTER I
INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Analysis

Language is a main of communication that is used to transfer information, ideas, and feelings from one person to another. 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 learners in the world study about English as they second, or foreign language.

In studying English, the most important part that the learners 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 a language. 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.

In its development, language used in every nation in the world especially English language For this reason, an English Language Teaching (ELT) is completely necessary for human beings. Richards (1974 : 1) “The current status of English has turned a significant percentage of the world’s population into part-time users of learners of English. Wherever we work, we share many assumptions about what we do; we prepare and use teaching materials and classroom methods and techniques based on similar, or at least comparable, principles.”

English Language Teaching gives such a big impact for the learners’ success in the future. In supporting and achieving it, a better learning/teaching method is completely needful. Richards (1974) says, “Both teachers and learners will be comfortable in class if the teaching style(s) match the learning style(s). If a learning style conflict does occur, the affected learners may become bored, inattentive, discouraged, and do poorly in tests.” Besides, effective teaching requires teachers’ awareness of learners’ individual differences and teachers’ willingness to vary their teaching styles to match with most learners’. For this reason, I am strongly interested in finding out the needs of English Language Teaching for the learners in a high school and then observing the ways or methods of teaching English as a foreign language used by the teacher in that school.

As a matter of fact, many sources are available to indicate the way of teaching English as a foreign language. There are many schools, institutions, and courses that become so interesting to visit in which we can gain much information and then get the idea of the most effective way to teach a foreign language, such as English.
Nowadays, English language is not a strange matter for everybody because using English can be perceived throughout world. Due to this reason, government encourage to teach English right from primary up to tertiary university level. Many people also join English class in informal education, such as English course. Technology progress, process of time, and free competition has steadily forced language user to learn English, as it has been known; its position has been increased to be a global language. It needs the ability of Indonesian citizen, in using another language than their native languages for making them ready to deal with competition in the world. It makes English really important to use and learn for giving expectation in Indonesia’s future.

In formal schools, learners who learn English must learn about grammar. Because it can help the learners to arrange some words, or sentences correctly if they understand how to arrange them by studying English grammar. The researcher had done observation of the learners in “Bimbel Medica”. what is the important point that learners wanted to be mastering English in that time, and then most of the learners asked that the learners wanted to mastering English in Grammar, because the learners wanted to face the National Examination, and then the researcher also asked the learners “what is the most familiar grammar’s topic in National Examination?”, and then the learners also answered ‘Elliptic construction’, or ‘elliptical sentence’. From that information, the researcher had ambition to analyze the elliptical construction, because it can be the most Important think to be analyzed. ‘Elliptic construction’, or ‘elliptical sentence’ term is used by some writers in their grammar books, such as; 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 (1989: 230), ‘positive agreement too – so, negative agreement
either – neither’ elliptical construction or elliptical sentence is one topic that the learners learn in English grammar. By understanding elliptical construction, it can help the student in speaking and writing English well.

Elliptical construction is an English form of sentence which omit some of its element to avoid unnecessary repetition, Apriyanti (2009; 28). Elliptical construction is important for learners, in that by mastering it they will know how to arrange sentences better and avoid unnecessary words repetition especially in writing. However, the implementation of National Examination has forced English teachers to focus more in improving learners reading ability which detracts grammar discussion. It happens because teachers want their learners to be able to pass the National Examination, where most of the questions are text-based. This kind of English teaching and learning process also happens in “Bimbel Medica”, the teacher spends most of teaching and learning process in discussing reading, meanwhile the discussion of grammar, especially elliptical construction, is just in a glimpse. Therefore the researcher wants to analyze the ability of grade IX “Bimbel Medica” learners and hopes that the result will be taken into consideration of English teaching and learning whether grammar, especially elliptical construction, need to be discussed more or not. That is why the researcher chooses the title “The Ability of Grade IX “Bimbel Medica” Learners’ in Mastering English Elliptical Construction.

The examples of elliptical construction in conversation are:

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

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

3. Ridho : “My father can’t speak English.”
Erick: “Neither does My uncle”

4. Marshal: “I rarely come to my girlfriend house.”

Rasyid: “I don’t either.”

5. Ibet: “I can speak English fluently”.

Raja: “But I can’t”.

The examples of elliptical construction on writing are:

1. Anggie wears red dress. Renatha wears red dress.

The two sentences we can combine become:

Anggie wears red dress and so does Renatha. or

Anggie wears red dress and Renatha does too.

2. Faishal will not go to the cinema. Benhard will not go to the cinema.

The two sentences we can combine become:

Faishal will not go to the cinema and Benhard won’t either. or

Faishal will not go to the cinema and neither will Benhard.

In Indonesia, studying English is as important as other subjects for learners. They study English beginning from primary school up to university levels. In this thesis, the researcher want to analyze the ability of grade IX “Bimbel Medica” learners on elliptical construction, or elliptical sentence. Actually, “Bimbel Medica” is one of the biggest studies center in Indonesia that has the learners English subject. There are 14 branches of “Bimbel Medica” in Medan, but the researcher only chose one branch as the object of data. The location is on Jl. Iskandar Muda No.19A Medan. The researcher chose that branch as the research because that place is the biggest location, or the center of “Bimbel Medica” that have many learners to be an object data.
1.2 Problem of the Study

In analysing student’s ability in mastering English elliptical sentence, there are two questions that are needed to lead the writer to explain and solve the problems. The questions that are relevant to the problems are:

1. How is the ability of the grade IX “Bimbel Medica” learners in mastering English elliptical construction?
2. What are the problems of the grade IX “Bimbel Medica” learners in mastering English elliptical construction?

1.3 Objectives of the Study

The objectives of the study are as follows:

1. To find out the ability of grade IX “Bimbel Medica” learners in mastering elliptical construction.
2. To find out the problems of grade IX “Bimbel Medica” learners in mastering elliptical construction.

1.4 Scope of the Study

The topic that is going to be discussed in this thesis is about an analysis of the ability of grade IX “Bimbel Medica” learners in mastering English elliptical construction, or elliptical sentence. I want to limit my analysis in order to make the discussion more focused. The subject that needs to be analyzed is only about elliptical construction. I choose it, because it is needed for the learners who will face of National Examination (UN). And then, it is one the important grammar that must be mastering of the learners to improve their English skills. The object are 30 learners who are in the preparation of National Examination (UN) at the testing and learning centre, “Bimbel Medica” Plus Indonesia Jl. Iskandar Muda, Medan.
1.5 Significance of the Study

I hope that the result of this research would be useful for English teachers and students. Next, I also hope that this research could motivate other researchers who are interested in the same topic. Further, I also hope that it would be useful for other people who are interested in teaching English, especially in describing the problems and difficulties related to elliptical construction.